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Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-95-225
Wednesday
22 November 1995

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Daily Report
Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-95-225 *22 November 1995*

CONTENTS

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DUMA ELECTION ISSUES

Key Developments

FBIS Duma Election Report 21 Nov *[FBIS Media Note]* 1
Reportage on Television Coverage of Elections 7
Russia Is Our Home Airs Commercial *[Moscow ORT]* 7
Yavlinskiy Interviewed on Yabloko *[Moscow ORT]* 7
KRO Features Campaign Advertisement *[Moscow RTV]* 9
Bykov Represents Common Cause Bloc *[Moscow RTV]* 10
CPRF Spokeman on Restoration of Union *[St. Petersburg TV]* 10
Gaydar Stresses Economic Issues *[Moscow RTV]* 11
Tikhonov-Tupolev-Tikhonov Bloc Featured *[Moscow ORT]* 12
Pamfilova Interviewed on Bloc's Program *[Moscow RTV]* 13
Representatives Speak on 'My Fatherland' *[Moscow RTV]* 13
Shumeyko Interviewed on New Public Movement *[Moscow ORT]* 14

Regional Activities

Election Handbook for Regions Published *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 21 Nov]* 14

Election Guidelines

Commission Urges Talks on Election Law Amendments *[ITAR-TASS]* 15
Rybkin Notes Options Following Court Ruling *[ITAR-TASS]* 15

Forecasts & Commentary

Filatov Notes Yeltsin Concern Over Public Tension *[INTERFAX]* 16
Supreme Court Chairman Views Campaign Disputes *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 16 Nov]* 17

INTERREGIONAL AFFAIRS

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 22 Nov 19

RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Yeltsin Issues Statement on Bosnia Peace Accord *[ITAR-TASS]* 20
Deputy Foreign Minister Comments on Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 20
Ministry Welcomes 'Reasonable Compromise' *[INTERFAX]* 21
Karasin Expresses Hope for Peace Talks *[INTERFAX]* 21
Clinton Absence Said Due to 'Routine' APEC Agenda *[IZVESTIYA 21 Nov]* 21
NATO Expansion To Force Russia To Uphold Interests *[ITAR-TASS]* 22
Moscow Opposes Depriving UNSC Members of Veto Right *[INTERFAX]* 22
Rules Published for Repayment of Debts to CEMA Members *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Nov]* ... 22
China Shows Interest in Buying Diesel Submarines *[ITAR-TASS]* 23
Military Detains North Korean Citizen on Gun Charges *[ITAR-TASS]* 24
Industrial Cooperation Agreement Signed With ROK *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 22 Nov]* 24

Yeltsin Congratulates Poland's Kwasniewski on Victory *[INTERFAX]* 24
Daily Dismisses View of Walesa Defeat *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 22 Nov]* 25
Federation Council Rebuts Bill on Ties With Cuba *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Nov]* 26
Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks *[Tehran IRNA]* 26
Karasin: Moscow, Kiev Differ on Dual Citizenship Issue *[INTERFAX]* 26
Yeltsin Congratulates Algerian President on Reelection *[INTERFAX]* 26

RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political Issues

Yeltsin Jokes With Chernomyrdin Over Health Rumor *[Moscow NTV]* 27
Yeltsin Approves Statute on Council of Europe Commission *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Nov]* 27
Yeltsin Establishes Commission on Legal Reform *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Nov]* 28
Premier Satisfied With Duma Approval of Dubinin *[INTERFAX]* 28
Premier Meets With Regional Media Representatives *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Nov]* 29
Government Approves Plan To Tackle Emergencies *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Nov]* 29
Officials Deny Grenade Incident Targeted at Duma *[ITAR-TASS]* 30
Cossack Army Organization Submits Bill to Duma *[MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS 21 Nov]* 31
Daily Views Court's Refusal To Examine Kozyrev Suit *[IZVESTIYA 16 Nov]* 31

Media Issues

Premier Signs Directive on State Publications, TV Programs *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Nov]* 32
Raid on Russkoye Radio Station in Moscow Detailed *[Moscow ORT]* 33

Military & Nuclear Issues

Daily Examines Yeltsin Defense Industry Documents *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 18 Nov]* 34
Petrov: 40,000 Tonnes of Chemical Weapons 'Accurate' *[ITAR-TASS]* 35
Official Confirms Security of Miniature Nuclear Weapons *[ITAR-TASS]* 35
Decommissioned Nuclear Submarines Said To Pose Danger *[INTERFAX]* 35

Federal Assembly

Legislative, Regulatory Documents 12-18 Nov *[FBIS Media Note]* 36
Chernomyrdin Appeals For Approval of New Bank Chairman *[Moscow RTV]* 38
Duma Confirms Dubinin as Central Bank Chairman *[ITAR-TASS]* 39
Duma Adopts Decree on National Security Doctrine *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Nov]* 39
Duma Motion To Fire Grachev Fails by 21 Votes *[INTERFAX]* 39
Duma Passes Law on Federation Council *[SEGODNYA 18 Nov]* 39
Duma Protests Hetamn's Trial in Kazakhstan *[PRAVDA 22 Nov]* 40

Regional Affairs

Chechnya Reportage: Bombings, Election, Negotiations 41
Zavgayev Attack Implications Viewed *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 21 Nov]* 41
Russian Prosecutor To Investigate Plot *[INTERFAX]* 42
22 Nov Explosion in Central Groznyy *[ITAR-TASS]* 42
Minister Confirms No Casualties *[INFORMATSIONNOYE AGENTSTVO EKHO MOSKVY]* 42
Yeltsin, Zavgayev Discussing Elections *[ITAR-TASS]* 43
Zavgayev, Khasbulatov To Run For Presidency *[INFORMATSIONNOYE AGENTSTVO EKHO MOSKVY]* 43
Kulikov Preparing for Worst in Elections *[INFORMATSIONNOYE AGENTSTVO EKHO MOSKVY]* 43

Chechens Against Elections During Hostilities *[Moscow NTV]* 43
Lobov: Majority Supports Zavgayev *[ITAR-TASS]* 44
Negotiators Criticize Groznyy OSCE Mission *[INTERFAX]* 44
Arctic Shelf Oil Investment Ready To Begin *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 21 Nov]* 44

Economic Issues

Economy 'Beginning To Emerge From Crisis' *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 14 Nov]* 45
Central Bank To Tighten Controls on Securities Market *[FINANSOVYYE IZVESTIYA 17 Nov]* 47
Candidate for Central Bank Chairmanship Interviewed *[IZVESTIYA 22 Nov]* 47
Chelyabinsk Plant Expects To Receive Pentagon Order *[INTERFAX]* 48
Fear of Inflation Drives Russians To Buy Dollars *[Moscow 2x2 TV]* 48

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Kuchma Congratulates Kwasniewski on Election Victory *[UNIAR]* 49
Kuchma, Latvia's Ulmanis Discuss Bilateral Agreements *[UNIAN]* 49
Defense Cooperation Agreement Signed With Austria *[UNIAN]* 49
Lazarenko, Soskovets on Natural Gas Debt to Russia *[INTERFAX]* 49
Economic Cooperation With Cuba Given 'Green Light' *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 17 Nov]* 50

National Affairs

Experts Discuss Opposing Versions of Citizenship Treaty *[UNIAN]* 50
Supreme Council, Cabinet Agree on Cooperation *[INTERFAX]* 50
Shmarov: 'No Drastic Changes' in Military Doctrine *[HALYCHYNA 11 Nov]* 51
Official on Signing Chemical Weapons Accord *[UNIAN]* 51
Orthodox Church Branches Willing To Unite *[MOLOD UKRAYINY 16 Nov]* 52

Economic Issues

Parliament Passes Law on Industrial, Financial Groups *[UNIAN]* 52
Appeal Explains Gas Supply Situation, Urges Payment *[ZA VILNU UKRAYINU 14 Nov]* 52
Report on Trend Toward Depositing Money in Banks *[HOLOS UKRAYINY 16 Nov]* 53

WESTERN REGION

Belarus

Lukashenka: West Must Not Disrespect East *[Duesseldorf HANDELSBLATT 21 Nov]* 54
Lukashenka: Minsk Cannot 'Betray' Russia for Money *[Moscow NTV]* 55
Lukashenka Accuses Constitutional Court of 'Intrigues' *[BELAPAN]* 55
Russian Strategic Missile Troops Guarding Topol Base *[St. Petersburg TV]* 56

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan

Qazhygeldin Tells UK Meeting Inflation Curbed *[ITAR-TASS]* 57
Nazarbayev Begins Talks With Tajikistan's Rakhmanov *[ITAR-TASS]* 57
Trial of Cossack Hetman Gunkin Viewed *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 22 Nov]* 57

Kyrgyzstan

Akayev on Economic, Political Affairs, CIS *[IZVESTIYA 22 Nov]* 58

Tajikistan

UN Peace Commission Chief Urges New Round of Talks *[Tehran IRNA]* 61

Rakhmanov, Russian, Turkmen Officials Discuss Tajik Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* 61

CAUCASUS

Armenia

Border Positions Come Under Fire From Azerbaijan *[Yerevan International]* 62
Yerevan Denies Talks Held Between Ter-Petrosyan, Aliyev *[ITAR-TASS]* 62

Azerbaijan

Aliyev, Israeli Ambassador Exchange Views on Election *[Baku TV]* 62
Chechen Sources Say Village Bombed by Russian Planes *[TURAN]* 63
Final Results of Referendum on Constitution Published *[INTERFAX]* 63

Georgia

Shevardnadze Meets Russian Border Guard Service Director *[INTERFAX]* 63
Abkhaz Council Denounces Visiting Duma Deputy *[Tbilisi Radio]* 63
Motorized Infantry To Re-Acquire Air Defense Capability *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 21 Nov]* 64

BALTIC STATES

Estonia

U.S. Secretary Perry 'Cautious About Making Promises' *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 22 Nov]* 65
Minister Opposes Linking Agreements With Russia *[INTERFAX]* 65
Estonia Agrees To Open Polls for Russian Duma Elections *[INTERFAX]* 65

Latvia

Secretary Perry Arrives for 2-Day Visit *[INTERFAX]* 66
Welcomed by Premier *[Riga Radio]* 66
Meets Leaders on NATO Issues *[Riga Radio]* 66

Lithuania

INTERFAX Summarizes Secretary Perry's Visit 67
Perry News Conference *[BNS]* 68
Brazauskas, Perry on Talks *[BNS]* 69
Russia Denied Permission To Open Kaunas Consulate *[IZVESTIYA 18 Nov]* 69
Brazauskas on Ignalina Power Station, NATO, EU *[Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER 21 Nov]* 70

Key Developments

FBIS Duma Election Report 21 Nov
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[FBIS Media Note] ***This is the tenth in a weekly series of reports FBIS will produce on the campaign for the 17 December Russian Duma elections. It is based solely on Russian media reporting.***

Recent Developments

Constitutional Court Refuses To Consider Election Law's Provisions The Constitutional Court announced on 20 November that it will not examine the constitutionality of the Duma election law's provision on a 5 percent threshold (ITAR-TASS, ORT, 20 November), rejecting appeals by the Supreme Court and Duma deputies (see "FBIS Duma Election Report 14 November").

The court's decision elicited a mixed response:

- Presidential Press Secretary Sergey Medvedev said that the decision "has not eased tension connected with the doubts concerning the quality of the law." According to ITAR-TASS (20 November), he "stressed" that the court ruling still gives the Duma an opportunity to introduce "necessary amendments." Medvedev stressed that Yeltsin's position "remains unchanged—elections should take place on schedule and the election law should cast no doubts."
- Presidential Administration Chief Sergey Filatov warned during a 21 November session of the conciliation committee responsible for implementing the Civic Accord Treaty that a "real danger" exists that the new Duma "will be found illegitimate" unless the election law is amended before 17 December (ITAR-TASS, 21 November).
- Echoing Filatov, presidential aide Georgiy Satarov, who also participated in the conciliation committee's session, warned that if the law is not "clarified, there is a great political risk that after the elections tension will prevail in society." Satarov reportedly advocated "appropriately amending" the law "rather than postponing elections" (INTERFAX, 21 November).
- INTERFAX (20 November) reported that Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF) leader Gennadiy Zyuganov, Russia's Democratic Choice-United Democrats leader Yegor Gaydar, and Liberal-Democratic Party of Russia (LDPR) leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy all welcomed the court's decision.

KRO Advocates Referendum on Government Accountability Delegates participating in a Congress of Russian Communities (KRO) convention held 10 November backed party leader Yuriy Skokov's proposal to begin collecting signatures for a referendum on the "introduction of people's control over the activities of the authorities" (ITAR-TASS, 10 November). Skokov asserted that "if government activities lead to a decline in living standards, the people have every right to demand the government's resignation." ITAR-TASS reported that representatives from 56 regions were "elected" at the convention to "work out the wording of the referendum question" and gather the 2 million signatures required by law to initiate a referendum.

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA (18 November) published an "appeal to the country" signed by the KRO's leadership troika—Skokov, Lt. Gen. Aleksandr Lebed, and Sergey Glazyev—backing the "demand" of "Russia's honest people" that the population's living standard "and nothing else be the authorities' constant main concern and the criterion of the effectiveness of the governments' work."

Skokov Talks Tough in Stavropol, But Refuses To Criticize Yeltsin Skokov reportedly told voters during a 17 November campaign stop in Stavropol Kray that if the KRO "wins" the Duma elections it "may institute criminal proceedings against "some of the active figures in the present democratic regime." According to a 17 November INTERFAX report, Skokov "did not exclude" the "possibility" that a victorious KRO could hold a "series of trials" of "some democrats in power." He also warned that if the "new Russians" who have prospered since the collapse of the Soviet Union do not "understand the need to apply their efforts and money" to create a "more efficient" state, "another tone will be chosen." Asked to express his "attitude" about President Yeltsin, Skokov said he could not "criticize and make harsh statements" about him because Yeltsin "heads my native state and I do not want this state and its leader to be mud-splashed from all sides.

Lebed also was scheduled to appear in Stavropol, but Skokov claimed Lebed had to change his plans and return to Moscow "due to the ongoing political intrigues against him." According to Skokov, "certain people" are collecting "discrediting information" about Lebed to be published in the media and Lt. Gen. Valeriy Yevnevich, who replaced Lebed as commander of the 14th Army in Moldova, is the "most active" among them (INTERFAX, 17 November).

Grachev Issues Threat After Duma Vote on Conscripts' Length of Service Defense Minister Pavel Grachev has threatened to seek to influence military

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voters' choices after the Duma overrode a Federation Council veto and approved a law on 15 November allowing many conscripts to serve only 18 months instead of the minimum two-year term advocated by the military leadership. Describing the Duma's approval of the law as "another blow against the state and the prestige of the army" prior to a meeting with Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin on 17 November, Grachev announced that he has "complete" lists of deputies' names showing "how they voted." He reportedly "promised" to have the lists published in newspapers "so that voters see clearly which legislators stand for [Russia as] a great power, and who is setting up a cushy job for himself for another four years" (ITAR-TASS, 17 November). Grachev noted that Duma deputies belonging to Chernomyrdin's Russia Is Our Home (NDR) bloc "did not take part" in the 15 November vote and said, "I think it will be clear to our commanders who is who in the forthcoming elections" (Moscow NTV, 17 November).

Yeltsin's Analysts Play Down Communists' Chances in Single-Seat Races Mark Urnov, the head of Yeltsin's Analytical Directorate, and Leonid Smirnyagin, who heads the directorate's Department for Regional Issues, asserted at a 20 November press conference that communists and their allies will not win many of the 225 single-seat races. Urnov predicted that CPRF candidates are "likely" to win only 10 single-seat races and they and other leftist candidates may capture no more than 30 seats combined. Echoing Urnov, Smirnyagin claimed that the CPRF, the Agrarian Party of Russia (APR), and former Soviet Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov's Power to the People! bloc "nominate people with little authority" who are "overshadowed by prominent and locally well-known politicians" in the single-seat districts. According to Smirnyagin, "conservative-minded" electors may choose leftist parties and blocs in party list voting, but will likely "assess the candidate's personality rather than his party membership" in voting for candidates in their own single-seat districts (INTERFAX, ORT, 20 November).

Smirnyagin also warned that provincial governors have "enormous opportunities" to influence the "directors' corps" in their regions, "who in turn influence their workers." He argued that "this chain of influence sharply distorts the democratic process," but admitted "I do not see ways to fix it" (INTERFAX, 20 November).

Beer Lovers' Party Alleges Million Dollar Bribe Offered The press service of the Beer Lovers' Party told Ekho Moskvy radio (20 November) that representatives of an unspecified "well-known, well-off electoral association" offered party leader Konstantin Kalachev $1 million to drop out of the election race "in favor of the bloc in question." According to the Ekho Moskvy report, the party's press service claimed that the unnamed bloc "suggested" that the Beer Lovers withdraw in "mid-December" and appeal to its supporters to vote for the "buyer," but after a "brief conversation" Kalachev "declined" the offer.

In the Provinces

Financing Shortfall Threatens To Scuttle Elections in Khabarovsk Russian Television's (RTV) "Vesti" news program (20 November) reported that elections "may not be held" in Khabarovsk Kray because Moscow has allotted only 3 billion rubles [R] out of the R32 billion "promised" to the Far Eastern territory's authorities to conduct the Duma elections. An unidentified speaker told a "Vesti" correspondent that ballot papers must be printed by 27 November and that the cost of printing the ballot papers "alone" is approximately R15 billion.

Single-Seat Races Worth Watching The following is a compilation of information on selected single-seat races where well-known candidates are competing against each other.

City of Moscow (Names of registered candidates along with short biographies were published in MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA on 27 and 31 October).

Chertanovskiy (Electoral District #204)

Sergey Kovalev (Russia's Democratic Choice-United Democrats) — Kovalev is a well-known, controversial human rights activist who vociferously opposed the intervention in Chechnya. He was elected to the Duma in 1993 as a single-seat candidate from what was then the Varshavskiy district.

Oleg Rumyantsev (Stanislav Govorukhin's Bloc) — The number 2 candidate on the bloc's federal list, Rumyantsev is currently a "consultant" to the Duma Committee for Legislative and Judicial Reform. A former Supreme Soviet deputy, Rumyantsev maintained a high public profile until Yeltsin dissolved the Supreme Soviet and was the chief author of the Supreme Soviet's draft constitution that Yeltsin sidestepped in favor of a draft written by Sergey Shakhray and several others and which voters approved in December 1993.

Dmitriy Vasilyev (independent) — Vasilyev is the chairman of "Pamyat," a fascist, anti-Semitic organization whose notoriety peaked during the Gorbachev era and formerly included several current ultra-nationalist luminaries such as Russian National Unity leader Aleksandr Barkashov. A 30 July 1993 IZVESTIYA article described Vasilyev as a "former photographer" and "bit of a poseur" who like the "Fuehrer" was "inclined to hysterical fits." Vasilyev reportedly claimed that a "mysterious third force"—Zionism—stands in the way of a

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settlement in Chechnya and that this "third force" has "deliberately set the Orthodox Church against Islam" (MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS, 8 July).

Vadim Pechenev (Ivan Rybkin's Bloc) Pechenev is deputy head of the Presidential Administration's Department for Work With the Regions although the biographic information accompanying his candidate listing in MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA (30 October) identifies him as "Deputy Chief of the Presidential Administration." In an article he wrote earlier this year, Pechenev criticized the ethnic republics' efforts to boost their "sovereignty" and called for bringing their constitutions in line with the Russian Constitution. He also advocated suspending the signing of individual treaties with federation components until the adoption of a federal law delimiting Moscow's and the provinces' powers. Pechenev criticized the stance taken by "so-called and real" democrats concerning Chechnya and claimed that they contributed to anti-federal and anti-Russian sentiments in the "so-called" ethnic republics (ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, 15 February).

Nikolay Maslov (independent) — A key member of Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov's team, the 35-year-old Maslov is deputy head of the Moscow City Government's Department of Municipal Housing. He has played a leading role in the city's efforts to privatize housing for several years and clashed with city legislators over the issue on several occasions (STROITELNAYA GAZETA, No. 22, June 1992; ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, 16 May 1992; NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, 23 May 1992).

Vyacheslav Mavrodi (independent) — He is the vice-president of the "MMM" pyramid scheme headed by his brother **Sergey Mavrodi**.

Andrey Poteryakhin (independent) — Poteryakhin is listed as the "chief specialist" for "YeES Rossii" [Integrated Power Grid of Russia], which was described in a 28 January 1994 IZVESTIYA article as "the world's larges joint stock company."

Vladimir Rebrikov (independent) — A former leading opposition deputy in the Supreme Soviet, Rebrikov is now a "consultant" to the Duma Committee on Economic Policy.

Nikolay Troshkin (CPRF) — Listed as the president of the Foundation for Reinforcement of Lawfulness and Law and order, Troshkin ran unsuccessfully as a single-seat candidate in 1993 on the Yabloko ticket.

Primorskiy Kray

Arsenyevskiy (Electoral District #49)

Valeriy Nesterenko — Nesterenko won this district in 1993 as a Democratic Party of Russia candidate in a field of five candidates. He was director of a nature reserve prior to his election (ITAR-TASS, 15 December 1993) and has served as the deputy chairman of the Duma Committee on Ecology.

Svetlana Orlova (Women of Russia) — Orlova was elected to the Duma in 1993 on Women of Russia's ticket and is the number 10 candidate on the party's federal list. The party did well in Primorskiy Kray in 1993, garnering 15 percent of the vote, well above the party's 8 percent average for all of Russia. As a Duma deputy, Orlova has called for increases in the defense budget and has, according to KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (8 June), "represented the interests of the defense industry." The daily newspaper VLADIVOSTOK (20 September) reported that a local news broadcast had identified her and former Kray Duma chairman Igor Lebedinets as the kray's "most popular candidates."

Aleksandr Vladislavlev (Forward, Russia!) — Formerly a leader of Arkadiy Volskiy's Civic Union, Vladislavlev is third on the federal list of Boris Federov's Forward, Russia! party. He has served as vice-president of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs. He was chairman of the board of the ZIL automobile company in until February, when he resigned after his plan for soliciting investments into the company was rejected by its board (KOMMERSANT-DAILY, 11 February). In 1991, Vladislavlev was first deputy Soviet foreign minister under Eduard Shevardnadze (INTERFAX, 29 November 1991) and a member of former USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev's Council for Business Activities (TASS, 27 September 1991).

Vladimir Grishukov (CPRF) — Grishukov, the first secretary of the kray branch of the CPRF, failed to collect the required number of signatures to run against incumbent kray governor Yevgeniy Nazdratenko in September 1994 before Yeltsin issued an edict in October 1994 halting the election (KRASNOYE ZNAMYA, 20 September 1994; ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI, 5 October 1994).

Vladivostokskiy (Electoral District #50)

Mikhail Glubokovskiy (Yabloko) — District incumbent Glubokovskiy is the number 2 candidate on Yabloko's Far East regional list (ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, 16 September). He protested sending

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marines from the Kray to Chechnya in January (RTV, 18 January).

Yevgeniy Bolshakov (LDPR) — Bolshakov heads the kray LDPR branch and was elected to the Duma in 1993 as the number 40 candidate on the party's ticket (ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, 12 November).

Viktor Cherepkov — Former Vladivostok Mayor Cherepkov is attempting a political comeback after his dramatic and controversial removal from office in March 1994. After being accused of bribery and racketeering, he suffered a "serious heart attack" when he was arrested in his office by law enforcement troops who stormed the building (ITAR-TASS, 17 March 1994). Although the prosecutor general later ruled that the charges against him had been fabricated by the kray's law enforcement agencies, Governor Nazdratenko has refused to restore him to office (ITAR-TASS, 21 July). He is currently deputy head of the Federal-Democratic Movement and president of the All-Russia Union of Legal Defenders (SEGODNYA, 1 November). He has alleged that an anonymous caller to his home recently warned him that he "will be shot like a rabid dog" if he does not drop out of the race (ITAR-TASS, 21 November).

Aleksandr Bondarenko — As head of the kray's tax police, Bondarenko ordered Cherepkov's removal and detention and was himself arrested by the Federal Security Service (FSB) for fabricating the charges against the former mayor (ITAR-TASS, 21 July). Governor Nazdratenko condemned Bondarenko's arrest, claiming that it was caused by Bondarenko's exposure of the kray's Russia's Democratic Choice leader as a "swindler" (SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, 25 July). He was released in September after serving a three-month sentence (ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, 16 September).

Ussuriyskiy (Electoral District #51)

Svetlana Goryacheva (CPRF) — The number 2 candidate on the CPRF's federal list, Goryacheva served as deputy chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet in 1991 and was one of the leading critics of then Supreme Soviet Chairman Yeltsin, sponsoring an open letter from six Yeltsin opponents in the parliament who demanded that he resign his post (Moscow Central TV, 21 February 1991). After the August 1991 coup attempt, she returned to Primorskiy Kray to serve as deputy prosecutor in Vladivostok, while retaining her seat in the Congress of People's Deputies (NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, 20 November 1991). She dropped out of her campaign for a legislative seat in 1993 for "health reasons," saying that the Duma would be a "rubberstamp body" for Yeltsin anyway (ITAR-TASS, 24 November 1993).

Igor Lebedinets — Lebedinets appeared to be Nazdratenko's most loyal ally until he unexpectedly launched a probe of misuse of federal budetary funds by the governor in June (IZVESTIYA, 17 June). Until he was elected speaker of the kray's Duma in February, Lebedinets was deputy head of the kray administration and filled in for Nazdratenko during Vladivostok Mayor Cherepkov's arrest in March 1994 since the governor was out of the country. Shortly after he called for a federal investigation of the governor's office, he was ousted as kray Duma chairman for causing "poor relations" between the kray's executive and legislative branches (ITAR-TASS, 20 June). Vladivostok reported on 20 September that a local news broadcast had identified he and Orlova as the kray's "most popular candidates."

The Media Beat

Election Blocs Begin Advertising on State TV and Radio The following are brief summaries of notable parties' and blocs' free campaign ads carried by ORT, RTV, St. Petersburg Fifth Channel, and Moscow Radio Mayak 15-17 November:

Russia Is Our Home — During his 16 November studio interview with St. Petersburg Fifth Channel, Chernomyrdin emphasized several times that he is part of a "team" and that he is a "team player." He spent much of his time introducing other candidates among the party's top twelve core list candidates and providing biographical information on them. He described his government as one that has made "mistakes" but is willing to take responsibility for reforming the economy, unlike his detractors who he contends "like to make noise" but are not willing to "sit down beside us and pull that load."

Communist Party of the Russian Federation — Relying on nostalgia for the Soviet Union to garner votes, Zyuganov reiterated the main points of the party's relatively short election platform, naming six heroes of the Soviet period and saying that the "party of patriots" has "always served its fatherland honestly" and "fought bravely." He went on to introduce other key party leaders such as Goryacheva and number 3 candidate Amangeldy Tuleyev (ORT, 15 November). Goryacheva spoke about morality in a 17 November studio interview with RTV, blaming Yeltsin, his wife, and Chernomyrdin for a deterioration in Russian culture.

Liberal-Democratic Party of Russia — Describing his party as the "only opposition party," Zhirinovskiy presented the LDPR's accomplishments since 1990, claiming that the party "was the first to hold a congress" while "others were hiding in fear they would be

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arrested." He claimed that the party was correct in supporting the coup plotters in 1991, supporting neither side in the October 1993 clashes, and making the Duma "pass amendments so all your sons will return home" from Chechnya. He also branded other parties as "Potemkin-style new blocs that have invited generals who lost all the wars or actors who will remind the older generation of good old films and thus attract voters by deceit" (ORT, 16 November). The party also ran portions of Zhirinovskiy's 1 July Duma speech, during which he blasted the government and called for dramatic increases in defense and a return of the KGB (RTV, 16 November).

On St. Petersburg television, the party ran a video presentation containing shots of controversial events and personalities of the last five years, followed by shots of Zhirinovskiy kissing soldiers, embracing a priest, and taking part in a march, while a narrator extolls the party leader's virtues. The party then replayed a presidential election program from 1991, in which Zhirinovskiy blasts Yeltsin and calls for the revival of Russia and protection of Russians abroad. The video is followed by a shot of a couple sitting up in bed watching clips of Brezhnev and Gorbachev and saying "I'm sick of that," but responding to a clip from a Zhirinovskiy speech by saying "Now that's good" and embracing. A final video shows speeches by Zhirinovskiy supporting the amnesty of those who took part in the events of August 1991 and October 1993 (St. Petersburg Fifth Channel, 15 November).

Yabloko — Party leader Grigoriy Yavlinskiy gave a lackluster performance in a studio interview with ORT. He attacked the government, saying that "privilege is 100 times greater today for the very people who fought against it" in the Soviet period and criticizing the government's privatization program. When asked, "What do you have to offer?" Yavlinskiy said only that he will have a "further chance to meet viewers" to answer the question "bit by bit" and went on to discuss the cost of political advertising and the status of the other two creators of the party, Yuriy Boldyrev and Vladimir Lukin (ORT, 15 November).

During a call-in program on Moscow Mayak Radio on the same day, Yavlinskiy spent much of the session discussing the importance of the presidential elections in June. He confirmed that he will run. In response to listeners' questions, he also expressed his support for increased social protection for servicemen and condemned the Chechen "disgrace." During a 17 November interview with RTV, Yavlinskiy described a litany of problems that the "country must solve within the next three or four years" but again said that he will "speak in detail about how and what we intend to do" about these issues "in subsequent meetings."

Party of Workers' Self-Government — Party chairman Svyatoslav Fedorov delivered an upbeat studio address that extolled the country's economic and intellectual potential. He said that people "live better" and the country is "richer, more free, and more open" than "under socialism" and that Russian politicians need "to share with the Russian people" the "economic and political methods" that are "attainable in this splendid and huge country." Aleksandr Kazannik, the number 2 candidate on the party's core list, also spoke (RTV, 17 November).

Russia's Democratic Choice-United Democrats — Somberly addressing voters from behind a large desk in a dimly-lit study, bloc leader Yegor Gaydar sought to dispel accusations that he is "responsible for everything happening in Russia." He pointed out that he has "not led a Russian Government for three years" and said that he does not "agree with much that has been done since then." Gaydar followed with a long defense of his government's policies, comparing his tenure with that of the situation in West Germany after Hitler had ruined Germany's economy (RTV, 15 November).

Citing Duma votes in a presentation on St. Petersburg Channel Five on the same day, Duma Deputy Grigoriy Tomchin, number nine on the party's core candidate list, compared the CPRF's, LDPR's, and APR's positions on "privileges and benefits," an increase in military service, "military action on the territory of Russia," and privatization with that of Russia's Democratic Choice.

Forward, Russia! — In a series of clips, party leader Boris Fedorov leveled a strong attack on the government and Russia Is Our Home. The clips showed a 1,000 ruble note being cut into smaller and smaller pieces as the years 1991 to 1995 appear on the screen, Fedorov carrying on a mock debate with a cardboard cutout of Chernomyrdin, and Fedorov presenting a book entitled "The Achievements of the Chernomyrdin Government" that contains only blank pages (ORT, 16 November).

Ivan Rybkin's Bloc — In a studio interview with ORT, Rybkin simultaneously described the country's economic difficulties and defended the government's reforms, describing the current state of the economy as "depressive stabilization." He condemned Russia's nouveaux riche who he alleged are "choking on wealth" and making "30 times" more than "those who live in poverty." He also said, however, that "we can speak of changes for the better" in the economy (ORT, 15 November).

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Agrarian Party of Russia — Attempting to counter arguments that the party represents narrow agricultural interests, Duma deputy and APR candidate Gennadiy Kuiik used much of his studio interview to emphasize that the party is supported not just by Soviet-style collective farms but also by "consumer cooperatives," "veterans," and "medical workers' unions," and that it backs "a variety of forms of ownership" (ORT, 16 November).

Women of Russia — The party targeted Russia's women voters in a series of short spots and addresses by the party's number two candidate Yekaterina Lakhova. In one clip, a woman throws garbage from a balcony into the path of men in suits walking below and proceeds to clean a banner that says "everyone to the elections." Another spot shows women in various roles—as a mother, a friend, a worker, and a bride (RTV, 16 November). During an address on Moscow Mayak on the same day, however, Alevtina Fedulova, the party's number one candidate, emphasized that the party is not "against men" but "addresses itself to the whole of Russia."

Registered Parties and Blocs and Their Top Candidates

Official candidate lists for the following parties and blocs registered by the Central Electoral Commission were published in ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA from 25 October-2 November (ORT's 1 November "Vremya" newscast reported that the paper would halt publication of party and candidate lists as of 3 November because of the "enormous costs" involved; no lists have been published since 2 November). Each entry below lists the party's 12 core federal list candidates in order and gives the date when the list was published.

Communist Party of the Russian Federation [Kommunisticheskaya partiya Rossiyskoy Federatsii] Gennadiy Zyuganov, Svetlana Goryacheva, Amangeldy Tuleyev, Valentin Chikin, Yuriy Maslyukov, Valentin Kuptsov, Anatoliy Ionov, Valeriy Tarasov, Yuriy Ivanov, Aleksey Podberezkin, Nikolay Savelyev, Valeriy Vorotnikov. (Federal list published 25 October).

Congress of Russian Communities [Kongress russkikh obshchin] Yuriy Skokov, Aleksandr Lebed, Sergey Glazyev, Lyudmila Vartazarova, Dmitriy Rogozin, Yuriy Kalmykov, Vasiliy Romanov, Mikhail Kolchev, Oleg Denisov, Tatyana Malyutina, Sergey Goncharov, Sergey Burkov. (Federal list published 25 October).

Liberal-Democratic Party of Russia [Liberalno-demokraticheskaya partiya Rossii] Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, Sergey Abeltsev, Aleksandr Vengerovskiy, Stanislav Zhebrovskiy, Aleksey Mitrofanov, Mikhail Gutseriyev, Mikhail Monastyrskiy, Mikhail Musatov, Vladimir Gusev, Nataliya Narycheva, Oleg Finko, Sergey Kalashnikov. (Federal list published 26 October).

Women of Russia [Zhenshchiny Rossii] Alevtina Fedulova, Yekaterina Lakhova, Galina Klimantova, Marina Dobrovolskaya, Fanuza Arslanova, Irina Vybornova, Antonina Zhilina, Lyudmila Zavadskaya, Natalya Malakhatkina, Svetlana Orlova, Galina Parshentseva, Yelena Chepurnykh. (Federal list published 28 October).

Agrarian Party of Russia [Agrarnaya partiya Rossii] Mikhail Lapshin, Aleksandr Nazarchuk, Vasiliy Starodubtsev, Aleksandr Davydov, Aleksandr Zaveryukha, Vladimir Akatyev, Aleksandr Belashov, Nikolay Sukhoy, Anatoliy Vorontsov, Andrey Popov, Mikhail Trunov, Vladimir Isakov. (Federal list published 28 October).

Russia Is Our Home [Nash dom—Rossiya] Viktor Chernomyrdin, Nikita Mikhalkov, Lev Rokhlin, Sergey Belyayev, Daniya Karimova, Zhores Alferov, Galina Volchek, Nikolay Travkin, Vladimir Kinelev, Vladimir Bashmachnikov, Aleksandr Martynov, Vladimir Ryzhkov. (Federal list published 31 October).

Trade Unions and Industrialists of Russia—Union of Labor [Profsoyuzy i promyshlenniki Rossii—Soyuz Truda] Vladimir Shcherbakov, Mikhail Shmakov, Arkadiy Volskiy, Valeriy Trapeznikov, Dmitriy Lukashenko, Aleksandr Neumyvakin, Valeriy Nosov, Yuriy Sakharnov, Anatoliy Denisov, Vadim Zhimirov, Igor Yurgens, Valeriy Bagin. (Federal list published 1 November).

Ivan Rybkin's Bloc [Blok Ivana Rybkina] Ivan Rybkin, Yuriy Petrov, Artur Chilingarov, Vyacheslav Nikonov, Aleksandra Ochirova, Aleksandr Sergeyev, Vyacheslav Lashchevskiy, Valeriy Kirpichnikov, Sergey Rodionov, Sergey Trakhirov, Igor Shichanin, Pavel Borodin. (Federal list published 2 November).

Beer Lovers' Party [Partiya lyubitelyey piva] Konstantin Kalachev, Dmitriy Shestakov, Andrey Palchevskiy, Andrey Kunitsyn, Yuriy Pripachkin, Aleksandr Levchenko, Aleksandr Shuvayev, Vyacheslav Krusser, Yuriy Milyukov, Nikolay Vlasov, Maksim Listovskiy, Andrey Artyushkov. (Federal list published 2 November).

List of Single-Seat Electoral Districts

The list of the 225 single-seat districts for the 17 December elections was published in ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA (22 August) and ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI (24 August). It lists each district's name and number; the

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total number of voters; the district's center; and other cities, towns, and rayons in the district.

Election Schedule—Key Dates

15 November-15 December: All registered parties and blocs are granted equal and free access to air time on state-owned television and radio channels and may purchase additional airtime. State-owned television channels are broadcasting the free campaigr advertising Mondays through Fridays primarily in 30-minute blocs.

Reportage on Television Coverage of Elections

Russia Is Our Home Airs Commercial

LD2111194395

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian at 1519 GMT on 21 November broadcasts a commercial, immediately after the 1500 GMT "Novosti" bulletin, which appears to promote Viktor Chernomyrdin's Russia Is Our Home bloc.

The commercial, which was only identified as such by the screen title "Commercials", contains no slogan, writing, or symbols of any sort. However, it does feature Nikita Mikhalkov, the Oscar-winning Russian film director and actor, who is one of the top candidates of Russia Is Our Home.

The commercial shows Mikhalkov and another unidentified actor as cosmonauts in the Mir space station. They float around gazing down at the Earth and identifying Russian cities, as mission control crackles over the radio. A guitar and keyborad play in the background.

The dialogue between the two men begins with a faint call over the radio from earth: "Number one, Number one, this is Earth, do you read me?" The radio then dies away unanswered as the dialogue full) between the two cosmonauts, gazing down at the planet, begins as follows:

[Mikhalkov] "Moscow."

[Second cosmonaut] "Arkhangelsk."

[Mikhalkov] "Kustanay [ethnic Russian city in Kazakhstan]."

[Second cosmonaut] "Yoshkar-Ola."

[Mikhalkov] "Where's that? I haven't heard of a town by that name!"

[Second cosmonaut] "Down there! There! Look! To the right of the Volga, opposite Cheboksary. I was there. I have a brother who lives there."

[Mikhalkov] "Naryn."

[Second cosmonaut] "Moscow."

[Mikhalkov] "We've already had Moscow. Samara!"

[Second cosmonaut] "Samara begins with the letter S."

[Mikhalkov] "We're flying over Samara. Look! Oh, Samara has the prettiest girls."

[Second cosmonaut] "Novgorod has the prettiest girls."

[Mikhalkov] "No, the prettiest ones are in Samara. And the parks there — do you know what the parks in Samara are like? [words indistinct]. Hey, do you see over there? At the bend in the river — do you see?"

[Mission control] "Number one, Number one, this is Earth. Do you read me?"

[Mikhalkov] "Number one reading you."

[Mission control] "At last! Why didn't you answer?"

[Mikhalkov] "Why should we have answered? Everything's alright up here!"

[Second cosmonaut] "Novokuznetsk."

[Mikhalkov] "Kostroma".

[Second cosmonaut] "Anadyr."

[Mikhalkov] "Rybinsk."

[Second cosmonaut] "Kaluga."

[Mikhalkov] "Anapa."

[Second cosmonaut] "Astrakhan. Naryan-Mar."

At this point the video and audio fade away.

Yavlinskiy Interviewed on Yabloko

LD2111231695 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 1605 GMT 21 Nov 95

[Studio interview with Grigoriy Alekseyevich Yavlinskiy, leader of the Yabloko bloc, by unidentified correspondent; from the "Elections '95" program — recorded]

[[FBIS Translated Text] [Correspondent] Good evening, Grigoriy Alekseyevich [Yavlinskiy]. During our last conversation, you declined to spell out your election program in detail. Perhaps the time for that has come today?

[Grigoriy Yavlinskiy] Perhaps so. Good evening. In my last appearance, the main thing that I wanted to say to my voters was that, over the next nine months, we must elect a new president, elect a new parliament, and create a new government. When I had the opportunity to speak

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on Russian Television, I thought it necessary to explain why this is so necessary. It is necessary because the problems that confront our country cannot be resolved by the current authorities. Among these problems, I specified the lack of order as a very serious feature that has developed in our country, as well as the decline of our economic potential and the threats to our national security, which are becoming increasingly obvious.

Today I want to emphasize that the economic program that has to be implemented in our country is only possible if, at long last, we introduce order into executive discipline. The very best program, the best intentions, the most sincere promises will not be realized unless we attain tough executive discipline throughout our vertical executive structure.

Speaking about our economic program, I want to highlight the main thing in it. I will dwell today on its aim. The aim of our economic program, the first and most direct one, is to halt the fall in the standard of living and to pose the question of social policy as the main thrust of the functioning of the whole economy. This is necessary not only because of electoral promises; it is necessary, above all, because the economy cannot just idle. It cannot function for the sake of abstract indicators. It has to function to meet the interests of most of our country's population.

In this connection, I want to dwell on the fact that, if people live in poverty in a country, if there is poverty in a country, then the economy cannot grow. It cannot actively develop. The economy needs demand. Any economist knows that. If we do not pay wages or pensions, if teachers, doctors, and the military — a huge group in our population — are deprived of the opportunity of regularly receiving wages on a level that fuels demand in our domestic economy, we are holding back all the opportunities for advancing toward a more stable economic growth.

Today I want to dwell on just one detail. The whole social block [of issues], in our view, ought to have started with elderly people, pensioners, invalids and children, in other words, those whom the state should be concerned about. That is accepted practice worldwide. It should be the same in our country too. Today the gaps in the budget are being plugged and current economic tasks are being pursued, at the expense of those categories of our citizens — at the expense of you, our elderly people and our parents. So the adoption of rules stating that no task may be accomplished at the expense of the weak groups in the population, those who have already given all that they could or cannot work actively today, must be the first condition for a successful economic policy. They must say that this may not be done, as a matter of principle.

The second problem is that a serious economic program begins with the definition of a state of affairs in which, irrespective of what the country's government is like, there is a group of citizens, for example, pensioners, invalids, young children, and women with young children, whose standard of living must not worsen. It may improve at different rates, but the principle should be that the position of these groups in the population must not deteriorate.

[Correspondent] Well, as a Utopia, that is fine; everyone is saying that. How is one to frame a budget that can make payments to everyone, especially since children and pensioners are not audiences that are, as it were, great spenders?

[Yavlinskiy] No, you are wrong.

[Correspondent] Am I?

[Yavlinskiy] It is just that you are not familiar with the economy. The economy is so structured that, if the monopolists in our country pay tax, if Gazprom, protected by the government, begins to pay tax, if the railways, our greatest monopolists, pay tax, if the metallurgists pay tax...

[Correspondent, interrupts] In short, everyone pays.

[Yavlinskiy] Yes... [pauses] No, first the monopolists, then the businessmen pay tax, then we will have more opportunities. If, for example, we did not spend $500 million on refurbishing the White House nor $370 million on equipping the Duma nor fantastic sums of money on equipping our leaders, and if spending on the machinery of state were not the main concern of our government structures, if we only knew how many officials we have in the state, we would then have some money. It will not be enough, as you quite rightly say, but it will be sufficient to accomplish these tasks.

I also want to tell you about one further source that is very important. That is the money that leaves our country and goes abroad. We lose $10-15 billion every year, when they go abroad and stay there. Again the country's leadership grants incentives and indulgences, and, in addition, creates a situation in the country in which, apart from paying ORT [Russian Public Television] for one minute, there is nowhere else to spend money, because everything else is very dubious.

[Correspondent] You were talking about the need for discipline and law and order. You seem to want a police state?

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[Yavlinskiy] No, you are wrong there as well. It is very strange how much you get wrong. [correspondent laughs] These are tasks that must be accomplished in such a way that there is freedom and a normal life within the country. However, there must be a tough, executive dictatorship in the administrative apparatus.

Since we have hardly any time left, I want to say once again: The Yabloko association invites to a discussion the leaders of our principal opponents — Viktor Stepanovich Chernomyrdin, Gennadiy Andreyevich Zyuganov, the Communist Party of the Russian Federation — without debates, without discussions, without arguments. It will be impossible to see who is telling truth that is based on concrete calculations and who is just thinking up promises [sentence as heard]. We invite you, our esteemed opponents, to a discussion.

[Correspondent] We invite you, too. ORT is ready to stage these debates at any time.

Thank you very much, Grigoriy Alekseyevich. We will see you next time and the one after.

[Yavlinskiy] Thank you.

KRO Features Campaign Advertisement

LD2111225195

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 0630 GMT on 21 November broadcasts its "Elections '95" program, which includes a seven-minute portion by the Congress of Russian Communities [KRO]. The broadcast is in the form of a prerecorded package made, according to the opening caption, by the "BBM Studio" [expansion unknown]. The theme of the package is "The team," and this caption features on a video still, including the movement's logo and its number on the ballot paper, which is flashed on screen repeatedly between segments of the broadcast.

The opening sequence shows brief vox pop interviews with a man in a car and a woman in a shop, both saying they intend to vote for the party. This is followed by three very brief video and voice clips, as follows:

[Yuriy Skokov] "We have created the public-political movement Congress of Russan Communities."

[Aleksandr Lebed] "This is a supra-party, supra-religious, and supra-ethnic movement."

[Sergey Glazyev] "Our program is designed for a 10-year period."

The caption "The team" then fills the screen and a brief clip follows, which shows the three leaders; Lebed is in uniform, mounting a flight of steps in the open air and standing at the top. More vox pops in support of the party follow.

The video then cuts to show Lebed, in a light suit, addressing a conference of the movement, saying:

"We want to preserve the armed forces so that they can fulfil their principal mission of defending the sovereignty and independence of the state. Without powerful armed forces and a powerful economy, all considerations of sovereignty and independence are nothing more than highflown obscure twaddle."

The next clip shows Skokov in close-up saying: "The common view that politics is a dirty business is just a convenient way of covering up, camouflaging, and explaining away one's own improper and immoral actions. A politician has to be moral. The authorities have to be moral. In other words, if they say something they have to do it. If they promise something they have to do their best to keep that promise; and if they are unable to keep their promise, then they have to say: I cannot do it; it has not proved possible."

The program goes on to show Sergey Glazyev, standing on a gallery in a building, saying: "Our economic program, as distinct from what the government is currently doing, is based not on some kind of abstract dogma, or on the interests of private groups, or the interests of foreign capital, but on demands and instructions we have been receiving over the past two years from a wide variety of social groups."

There follows a brief clip showing Lebed and Skokov seated at a table, with Skokov saying: "We are for a democratic state based on law." This cuts to a different clip of Skokov saying:

"In my view, democracy is the joint elaboration of agreed rules for living together, and conscious compliance with those rules. And order, from my point of view, is ensuring the observance of those rules. That is what the law is about. So, when they talk about order under a dictator, it is nothing of the sort. I am for observance of the law; in other words, compliance with the rules. That is a sign of democracy."

This is followed by a very brief clip of Lebed seated at a table. Skokov is then shown again, in a different setting, holding up a copy of a publicity brochure headed, "Be with us," and bearing the movement's logo and a photograph of Lebed in uniform and Skokov shaking hands. Skokov says:

"A movement is not just two people. We had this photograph taken for one purpose only — to show that we, as two different people, different in age, different in our life stories, different in experience, and in professional and other skills, have nevertheless found it within ourselves to reach agreement."

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The item continues with short clips of various speakers giving their views about the party, some filmed in a crowded foyer, and some at various outside locations. The clips are all intercut with still shots of the party logo, all of the speakers are introduced by the continuity announcer and are captioned.

Lyudmila Vartazarova, described as the chairman of the Socialist Workers Party, is the first of these speakers. She says:

"First and foremost, we have a very profound and sincere respect for the people, for the person as an individual. This is a priority for us. The person as an individual. Fairness is a priority for us, in the loftiest understanding of this word. We are taking this to the people. As for the rest, we envisage quite specific steps in the sphere of the economy and in providing for our lives, because it is not very pleasant for me to have to think of who might be waiting for me outside my home when I return every night. Human life seems to have lost all value in Russia."

Dmitriy Rogozin, described as chairman of the Executive Committee of the Congress of Russian Communities, says:

"Probably only a madman would today fail to have in his political vocabulary, would fail to speak about the problem of protecting our fellow countrymen and Russia's national interests. This has become topical now. I can see that this is to our merit. But we are sick of asking for people to defend our national interests. We are sick of hoping that a messiah will come to begin taking action for Russia's rebirth, not just uttering the words. So, it is probably quite natural for the Congress of Russian Communities to turn into a political movement, as has now happened."

Yuriy Kalmykov, described as a deputy in the Russian State Duma, says he believes that the Congress of Russian Communities is the only movement seriously speaking of stabilization in Russia and in inter-ethnic relations. Sergey Burkov, a State Duma committee chairman, says he most likes the congress' support for many forms of ownership. Mikhail Kolchev, described as chairman of the Central Committee of the Russian Independent Trade Union of Servicemen, says he is advocating social guarantees for servicemen. Tatyana Malyutina, described as head of the Russian Women Entrepreneurs' Association, says that in her opinion, the congress' program should includes a statement saying that the state is subordinate to society. Sergey Goncharov, described as chairman of the Association of Veterans from the Alpha anti-terrorist subunit, says everything must be done on a legal basis.

Konstantin Zatulin, chairman of the Duma CIS Committee, says: "The Congress of Russian Communities gives the Russian people clarity."

The film ends with Yekaterina Sedova, described as a teacher, saying she thinks this team will be able to do something for the country.

Bykov Represents Common Cause Bloc

LD2111225895

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 0630 GMT on 21 November carries the "Elections '95" program with an election feature by the Common Cause bloc represented by Rolan Bykov. Bykov is shown standing in the studio where he says that he decided to stand for election because of the threat of radical forces acquiring power and his distaste for the developments such as the war in Chechnya and the killing of people such as television presenter Vlad Listyev.

He criticizes laws that the current parliament has passed, which he says are concerned with the short-term rather than the long-term. He then speaks of his support for the party leader, Irina Khakamada.

The party has prepared a number of laws that it is planning to publish in the press, Bykov adds. These deal with laws not being used to divide people or cause clashes, but the protection of the individual and property. He ends by calling for support in the elections.

The feature itself ends with a video montage showing pictures of party leaders Vladimir Dzhanibekov, Rolan Bykov, and Irina Khakamada. This switches to a still showing a drawing of a squirrel inside a cut out of the Russian flag with the number 15 in the top right hand corner, the words Common Cause to the left.

CPRF Spokeman on Restoration of Union

LD2111194295 St. Petersburg Fifth Channel Television Network in Russian 1800 GMT 20 Nov 95

[Address by Yuriy Pavlovich Belov, first secretary of the Leningrad Oblast Organization of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation; place and date not given; from the "Elections '95" program — live or recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] I am Yuriy Pavlovich Belov, first secretary of the Leningrad Oblast Organization of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation [CPRF]. I remember the song "Wide is My Motherland," familiar to the older and middle generations. If we look today at the lot of this great country, which inspires the respect of the entire world, we see misfortune, nationwide misfortune.

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Representatives of Russia Is Our Home are cunning when they call the Russian Federation all Russia; it is part of Russia but not all Russia. The representatives of Russia's Choice are cunning, too, when they consider the Russian Federation isolated from other parts of the historic fatherland. That is their choice, not our choice.

Restoration of the union state, our historic fatherland, is the main goal of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation. We understand that this goal cannot be achieved by the efforts of our party alone; a wide, popular-patriotic movement uniting all patriots, from the patriotically inclined worker to the patriotically inclined private entrepreneur is needed. The path to create the historic fatherland is not easy, above all, on a voluntary basis, avoiding the threat of civil war.

We are accused of political extremism, but was it not political extremism that the current regime committed in December 1991 against all the people and nations of Russia, of the Soviet Union. The path is not easy and lies, above all, through a multi-structured economy, with a strong state sector and strong forms of ownership, including private ownership. We realize that we need to determine the area that can be used to form this economy, allowing the different social groups to join forces. This area is restoring the industrial base in the state sector. [passage omitted]

The complex that works on arms production guarantees national security and we have no security. NATO is at the gates, ready to dictate its will, as it dictates to the Serbs. Our complex produces consumer goods. The military industrial complex, which you have all been frightened by, is above all a base of new technology, fundamental science, it is the scientific industrial base of the entire economy and we are on the verge of moving from a number of industrial sectors to primitive production.

We realize that to create a multi-structured economy, which would serve as the socioeconomic basis for the renaissance of the fatherland, tax policy needs to be examined structurally and the aggregate, clear rate lowered by 25-30 percent to allow home producers to breathe and to defend our market from the aggression of imported goods.

Of course, we communists cannot pass by the struggle against crime. [passage omitted: main crime is economic crime; Duma Deputy Yuriy Severnard describes how the Communist Party faction operates in the Duma; regrets that the party does not have enough deputies to push through its draft laws; calls on people to vote for the Communist Party of the Russian Federation]

[video shows a full screen caption: "The Communist Party of the Russian Federation" against a red background; the party's hammer and sickle logo remain in the top right-hand corner throughout. Video shows a combine harvester at work, blocks of apartments, archive footage of smiling people walking on Red Square, more recent footage of a Communist march including party leader Gennadiy Zyuganov, dancing Uzbeks, athletes waving to the crowd in a packed stadium, pioneers, veterans, a party congress, Zyuganov waving to the faithful, grain harvested by the combine, a factory, a lecture hall, a demonstration, and a family at home. Video ends with a full screen caption of the party name. The video is accompanied by the Soviet song "Wide Is My Native Land"]

[Belov] So on 17 December decide the question, what will Russia be like. Decide the question, will the Russian people be divided or not; will there be 6 million refugees; will there be 15 million unemployed; will there be 1 million homeless children; will there be those civil wars that are already under way in our mother land. [passage omitted: calls on people to remember Zyuganov]

[video shows pioneers, school children, cosmonauts, a ballot marked "For Zyuganov" being put into a ballot box, Zyuganov at a Communist demonstration, a serviceman carrying a smiling child, archive footage marked "Victory congratulations," another shot of a ballot marked "For Zyuganov" being put into a ballot box, pioneers saluting, another shot of a ballot and finally a signed photograph of Zyuganov himself. This is accompanied by the song "What Does the Motherland Begin From"]

Gaydar Stresses Economic Issues

LD2111172895

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1540 GMT on 20 November carries a seven-minute recorded address by Yegor Timurevich Gaydar, leader of Democratic Choice of Russia, on the "Elections '95" program.

The address by Yegor Gaydar incorporates clips from 1992 to illustrate how his party understands the needs of the economy, while appreciating the importance of political stability.

Gaydar introduces an old monochrome clip of him arguing the case for reform heatedly over a car roof with a resident of Severodvinsk by saying: "The question of the fate of the reforms, the cost of the reforms, is probably among the most important in Russia today. I get a lot of these questions, for example: Who is to blame for the fact that the reforms in Russia are being

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implemented so excruciatingly." He leafs through papers on his desk.

Gaydar continues: "The picture one gets from the first documents on the desk is extremely simple and harsh: grain reserves to the end of February; how are we going to feed the country; there is no gold — squandered; no hard currency — squandered; no one is giving any more credit; the old administrative system is not working; the new market is not working either."

To show how even in 1992 Gaydar was saying things could be put right, a clip is shown from 4 July 1992, when Gaydar was acting head of government. He is asking parliament to understand the critical nature of the economic situation, to avoid confrontation politics, and build political stability. Gaydar comments on the clip: "We had 11 months. We did strictly everything that could be done in that time. We had no deficit, no lines, and a convertible ruble. In that time it was not possible to create basic economic growth and ,therefore, the standard of living continued to fall. Having plenty did not bring prosperity; people understood very quickly that full shelves were one thing, but not the answer to the problems."

President Yeltsin is shown in a clip dated June 1992 saying, "I am convinced that in these conditions any other government would have coped even worse."

Gaydar compares Russia with other countries in a similar position: "We can look at what was achieved by those who were like us, but not 11 months, but three years to do it. For example, Poland — rapid economic growth from the third year of reform; Albania — the fastest-growing country in Europe today; Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the Czech Republic, Slovakia — all countries that have followed the road of most decisive and radical reform and today are at the top of the list of growing European economies."

In a clip from parliament dated 2 December 1992 Gaydar is shown arguing for consistent extension of economic reforms rather than going back to the old command system. Gaydar comments, "Let's look at the list of countries with the biggest drop in output last year: Belarus — a 26 percent drop; Kazakhstan — 25 percent; Ukraine — 23 percent. These are the places with the worst fall in the standard of living; these are the places with the most acute social problems; these are the places where the transition to the market has been the most painful. This is not now a matter for debate. Experts know this; it is a fact. The difficulty and the problem with the Russian reforms is not that they have been too radical. No. It is that they have been intermittent."

Current Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin is shown in a clip dated 14 December 1992 — the day he replaced Gaydar as prime minister — saying: "I am for the market economy, for reforms, for the market, but not for a bazaar." Gaydar takes up the theme: "Viktor Stepanovich Chernomyrdin, planning in December 1992 to build a market without bazaars, has learned a lot over the three years since then. At a great cost to us, he has learned. And now that the government is slowly, inconsistently but really moving along the road that leads to economic growth, real chances of stabilization are appearing, real chances of us moving away from having to divide up a constantly diminishing cake toward economic growth in Russia. That means money is appearing to deal with the most acute social problems, which means prosperity will start to grow.

"This is why it will be so dreadful and hurtful to abandon that course, once again to go back without hope. That is why it is so important to make a wise choice on 17 December 1995."

The election slot closes with a voiced-over caption over a background of faces in a crowd reading "Make a wise choice — Russia's Democratic Choice on 17 December. Number 23 on the ballot."

Tikhonov-Tupolev-Tikhonov Bloc Featured

LD2111152095 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 0525 GMT 21 Nov 95

[From the "Elections '95" program]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Announcer] I am sure many of our viewers and me, too, were surprised when they looked at the list of electoral blocs and parties and saw a bloc that has three surnames starting with the letter "T" in its title: Tikhonov-Tupolev-Tikhonov. Who are they? Things are more or less clear about Tupolev, but what about Tikhonov? One of the Tikhonovs is in our studio. Aleksandr Anatolyevich, are you going to surprise us with the content of your bloc in addition to its name? [passage omitted]

[Tikhonov] Warm greetings to you, esteemed voters. I wish you good health and luck in your lives. It is easy to wish people good luck these days, but to ensure that they are in a good mood is quite difficult. Nevertheless, our electoral bloc — Tikhonov-Tupolev-Tikhonov — made up of self-made people, as they say, is capable of resolving to a certain extent this task, too. [passage omitted] The main thing is that we know what laws Russia needs, therefore, we would like to be in the Duma in order to accelerate the establishment in practice of the equality of all forms

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of ownership, eliminate crime and corruption, change taxation and investment policy, govern the economy using only economic levers, beat inflation, set up a truly federative state, strengthen the principle of the separation of the three branches of power, renounce all forms of violence, draw up programs for the social and spiritual development of society, and carry out reforms in the armed forces. Representatives of our Tikhonov-Tupolev-Tikhonov Bloc would like, first and foremost, to see a time when not a single person in our country feels abandoned. [passage omitted]

Pamfilova Interviewed on Bloc's Program

LD2111182895

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 0630 GMT on 21 November carries a seven-minute live studio interview with Ella Pamfilova, the leading candidate for the Pamfilova-Gurov-Lysenko bloc, for the "Elections '95" program.

Asked why people should vote for her, she says the bloc's program "is based on simple human values — ordinary, everyday human values" and goes on to outline how the splendid-sounding policies from Russia's political parties need to be put into practice, "so that ultimately the ordinary, everyday Russian person gets to live better."

She says: "I believe the most important thing now is to draw attention to responsibility in politics, the responsibility of politics and the authorities to people. That is the most important thing, because — although it is a remarkable program and we could go on describing it for hours if not for days — if, for example, salaries are not paid at the nuclear center of Severodvinsk, which means that Russia could become another, enormous Chernobyl, this program would be pointless.

"When people say there is no money for industry, no money for science or culture, for pensions or children's facilities, grants or salaries, I am afraid I do not believe them. There is no money to pay for the needs that people have, but at the same time there is always money for absurd projects, for a senseless war, for simply indecent luxury for the powers that be. There is no money and there is no responsibility among the authorities to the people. I believe this is the main trouble and if we do not now do everything we can, once again our entire, diverse program will be empty and unachievable. That is the most important thing, and alongside that system of lack of responsibility lies the notorious deputies' immunity. I am one of those initiating a law restricting deputies' immunity so that every politician at every level has to publish a declaration on income and I will be insisting that this law is adopted in the current Duma so that the new Duma will, I hope, be made up of more responsible people."

Pamfilova says that she, Gurov, and Lysenko have similar approaches to the ideas of setting up a social security system and giving people rights in society: "It is unthinkable that a social security system can be set up and people given rights in society without decriminalization of society, not just the level of corruption — which mainly attacks at the top, from without — but also the everyday crime that every person suffers from every day." She points out that both Gurov and Lysenko are well-known for their tough stance on crime.

Pamfilova says the country is tired of austere politicians and wants representatives who are "calm people, calm professionals, responsible people, who are able to find a common language among themselves." She envisages the typical Pamfilova-Gurov-Lysenko voter as "a thoughtful, responsible, ordinary, everyday person who wants a dignified, ordinary life and wants to stand firmly on their own feet and help those who are unable to do so for themselves."

Pamfilova closes her interview by saying: "The elections to the Duma are an extension of the presidential elections. This is a single process in which we will be creating a mighty political system, but it will only prove effective if we have strong authorities influenced by society, so that these authorities always remain within the framework determined for them by society. That is the most important thing." She sums up her bloc's approach: "Under all circumstances we will defend people's rights in society and find a common language, not through confrontation, but through what we have in common."

The election slot ends with the Pamfilova-Gurov-Lysenko election advertisement. Over film of Pamfilova in formal clothes, clips of Gurov and Lysenko and men, women, and children walking along a Moscow street, a male voice says: "The leader of a team of strong men. Helping is our business. Russia is people. Let's start with people. The Ella Pamfilova bloc." The final caption reads: "Pamfilova-Gurov-V. Lysenko (Republican Party) Bloc — 18."

Representatives Speak on 'My Fatherland'

LD2111192295

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 0630 GMT on 21 November carries an eight-minute recorded address by members of the My Fatherland electoral association, for the "Elections '95" program.

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Stanislav Assekritov, a member of the political council of the My Fatherland electoral association, says the Russian people should be given a chance to enjoy a decent life. His introduction is followed by a message by the Association's member Tatyana Popova, who says that "our association advocates economic reforms, but we believe that every transformation should have a reasonable price. Poverty among the majority of the population, an increase in crime, and interethnic strife in the country and the feeling of vulnerability among the majority of the citizens cannot be the price to pay for any, even the most favorable, economic reforms. Therefore, a major section in the economic program of the My Fatherland electoral association is devoted to the settlement of social issues," she says. Popova goes on to speak about her direct involvement in social issues during her employment and her experience as a mother of a young child.

Martin Shakkun, in his contribution to the Association's electoral broadcast, speaks of the high social price of current reforms in Russia, saying that the country is suffering now like never before. He appeals to young people to abandon their dreams of becoming supermodels or rich businessmen and train as teachers, doctors, engineers, or economists, who do good work in society.

Shumeyko Interviewed on New Public Movement

LD2111222495 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 21 Nov 95

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Vladimir Shumeyko, chairman of the Federation Council, who until recently had not entered any parties or blocs, today announced that he is heading the campaign group to set up a public movement entitled Reforms — a New Deal [Reformy — Novyy Kurs].

[correspondent Vladimir Perfilyev] [passage omitted] According to its founders, a new socio-political force should emerge in Russia which is capable of bringing together the majority of the Russian people so that a new economic deal will ensure that the crisis is overcome, economic growth is steady, and all forms of ownership are developed. True, if this proves to be the case, then it is not clear whether those who are conducting the economic course today will agree to change it.

[Perfilyev addresses Shumeyko] A public movement; what tasks does it set for itself — the elections, or something else?

[Shumeyko] No, not the elections. The fact is, you must understand, to set oneself the task of the elections, when the elections have already been determined, when all the blocs have been finalized, when they have already been registered, when the election campaign is on, one should not interfere here. What we really have to do is to change the course of the reforms somewhat. So the budget can be adopted, just as the Federation Council says it should be, based on budgetary federalism, so that every person in Russia, wherever he lives, gets the same from the state.

[Perfilyev] Will the president support you?

[Shumeyko] We hope so, and I think that if the movement becomes nationwide then the president will have his say about it. [passage omitted: Perfilyev's postscript — Shumeyko's movement not involved in current election campaign] [video shows Shumeyko addressing meeting]

Regional Activities

Election Handbook for Regions Published

MM2111144395 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Russian Provinces on Eve of Elections"]

[FBIS Translated Text] At ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI's request, Leonid Smirnyagin, leader of an authors' collective; member of the Presidential Council; and chief of the Presidential Staff Analysis Administration's Regional Problems Department, talked about his new book "Russia's Regions on the Eve of the 1995 Elections" [Rossiyskiye Regioni Nakanune Vyborov-95]:

It is quite obvious that it is extremely important for our young democracy to ensure that citizens have sufficiently extensive information about what is happening in society — not least in order to reach independent decisions. It is also important that citizens can participate to the full in the running of the state and the resolution of its problems (albeit with the help of elections) but only on condition that they have sufficiently full information on that score.

That is why presidential structures and the Analysis Administration took the initiative, on the instructions of the Russian Presidential Staff, to issue a handbook containing brief and full information on the socioeconomic and political situation in the regions. And it is important that we are talking about baseline information. There is no ideological angle to it, there are no superfluous phrases, as was the case, for instance, under the Bolshevik regime — "how the party Central Committee

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ideologically influences society." The state no longer sets tasks of that sort, it does not have the right.

The handbook "Russia's Regions on the Eve of the 1995 Elections" contains information which voters themselves can use as the basis for reaching the relevant decision.

Everything has been done in relatively standard format — the left-hand page lists basic socioeconomic information about each region, while the right-hand page provides purely electoral statistics (about elections, main personalities, and so forth). And so on for each region, with the exception of Chechnya, since the material is very fresh — covering the first half of 1995. There is nothing similar available on Chechnya, and so information on it is missed out.

The task now is to ensure that this book is accessible to ordinary citizens and to anyone who wants to acquire it, rather than just to academics and analysts. The print run is 13,000, of which 10,000 have already been distributed free of charge to all state institutions, including the country's administrative rayons.

Currently we can see how certain academic analysts peddle some rather primitive information about the progress of the 1995 elections or election turnout broken down by Federation component, making it a commodity.

We have now supplied all this information to a wide range of readers and it would be pointless to trade in it any more.

Election Guidelines

Commission Urges Talks on Election Law Amendments

LD2111191295 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1559 GMT 21 Nov 95

[By Natalya Panshina]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, November 21 (ITAR-TASS) — There should be no discussion of the cancellation or suspension of election to the State Duma, members of the Civic Accord treaty conciliatory commission said on Tuesday.

The commission's meeting suggested an urgent discussion of possible amendments to the law of elections to the State Duma.

Members of the commission believe that although the Russian Constitutional Court refused to discuss requests of the Ruussian Supreme Court and of 102 Duma deputies as to whether the law is constitutional, the Constitutional Court may soon issue the conclusion that may point out specific articles of the law on election that need to be adjusted.

The conciliatory commission believes that the question of amendments should be submitted to the discussion of the commission with the participation of the Federation Council, the State Duma and the presidential side, after which it could be recommended to all parliamentary factions to support amendments to the law on election.

Chief of staff of the presidential administration Sergey Filatov said that there exists a real danger that the parliament will be found illegitimate after the election to the State Duma appointed for December 17. He believes that infringement of the Constitution should not be permitted. It is necessary to remove all the snags as this matter has been agitating the public opinion for a month.

Presidential assistant Georgiy Satarov goes along with this view. He believes that the law on election to the State Duma is imperfect. It was passed in a hurry and there were no parliamentary hearings regarding it. Moreover, the law relates to vital political interests of the corporate elite while the interests of citizens remained peripheral. Satarov believes that although the Constitution gives the parliament certain strength, the newly-elected Duma may turn out to be "half-legitimate." To ensure that tension should not arise after the election, amendments to the law should be passed now.

Vyacheslav Nikonov, who was among the 102 deputies that made a request to the Constitutional Court, said he is perplexed and concerned over the refusal of the Constitutional Court to discuss the request. The Constitutional Court has actually avoided its constitutional function, Nikonov said.

Rybkin Notes Options Following Court Ruling

LD2011182395 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1806 GMT 20 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, November 20 (ITAR-TASS) — State Duma Chairman Ivan Rybkin said that the Constitutional Court's refusal to examine the legality of the election law leaves only one opportunity — to prepare and conduct elections.

"What the situation will be like after the elections is another story," the State Duma press service quoted Rybkin as saying. He noted that "it can be rather difficult," adding that "several options are possible."

Earlier today, Russian presidential spokesman Sergey Medvedev said the "Constitutional Court's decision has not eased the tension connected with the doubts concerning the quality of the law on the election of State Duma deputies."

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Medvedev stressed that the "Constitutional Court gave deputies an opportunity to show political and civil wisdom and confirm their adherence to the principles of government by people through introducing the necessary amendments to the electoral law."

The press secretary pointed out that these amendments will be discussed by the Civic Accord conciliatory committee on Tuesday.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin's position "remains unchanged — elections should take place on schedule and the election law should cause no doubts."

Earlier in the day, the Constitutional Court declined to examine the constitutionality of the electoral law, a source in the Court told ITAR-TASS. The source did not elaborate, saying that Court Chairman Vladimir Tumanov had been authorised to clarify motives of the decision.

Claims to review the law had been filed by the Supreme Court and a group of lawmakers. Parliamentary deputies had challenged a particular provision of the law, which requires a party to win a minimum of 5 per cent of votes to receive at least one seat in the State Duma, as infringing upon people's right to representation.

If the court had decided to examine the legality of the law, it could have postponed the elections scheduled for December 17.

Forecasts & Commentary

Filatov Notes Yeltsin Concern Over Public Tension

LD2111214395 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1814 GMT 21 Nov 95

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kremlin Chief of Staff Sergey Filatov told a meeting of the conciliatory commission for implementing the civic accord on Tuesday that the Russian president was concerned about public tension following a debate on the legislation on election of the State Duma and formation of the Federation Council (the upper house).

He said the situation had caused a public stir with all government structures including the Constitutional Court being involved in the debate.

At the same time Filatov said that the law is imperfect due to "our level of experience, knowledge and the state of the society."

He said what would happen after the vote was more important since final results, according to experts, could be contested by the Constitutional Court. To prevent this to happen, he said all controversial issues must be resolved before general elections take place. IF Note: CC [Constitutional Court] judges after a closed meeting on Monday passed a ruling not to accept pleas from the High Court and a group of MPs to test the legality of the election law.

Filatov said the Court's rejection of the pleas was tantamount to a verdict that the law was not in breach of the Russian constitution. But he himself favors the lowering of a 5% barrier. If not, the country's minority is likely to wield a majority vote in a new Duma, he believes.

Referring to recent polls, Filatov said more than 50% of Russians were opposed to the idea of rescheduling elections to a mere 5% supporting it. 20% were indifferent and 17% undecided.

For his part, presidential political aide Georgiy Satarov blamed the setback on the law being rushed through too quickly. He said as many other laws, the election law was adopted in the face of substantial abuses of house rules. He said it affected the corporate interests of the political elite because the interests of parties and factions were in a clash with regional interests.

Satarov says if the law is not clarified, there is the risk of a flare up of tension after the December poll.

The aide is opposed to the idea of rescheduling elections though favoring changes to the law, among them the removal of a 5% barrier.

He denied allegations saying Yeltsin was fearing election results. "This is not so and the president said as much many times before," he said.

Kremlin spokesman Sergey Medvedev said the CC's refusal to consider the law did not relieve uncertainties about its quality.

At the same time he said the Court had offered the deputies to show political and civic wisdom and democratic their commitment to democratic principles by amending the law.

He said Yeltsin's position remains unchanged: the elections must be held on time, but there must be no uncertainties about the election law.

Filatov told INTERFAX the president would endorse the law on forming the upper house the State Duma approved last week provided it was approved by the Federation Council as well. IF Note: The bill on the Federation Council put forward by Duma Vice Speaker Artur Chilingarov and approved by the house provides for the upper house to be made up of elected governors. Elections of governors must be held until later next year in regions where these were appointed by the Russian

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president. No government representatives to the Council are envisaged.

The Council is due to meet on December 5 to discuss the new legislation.

In the meantime, CC Chairman Vladimir Tumanov told INTERFAX the Court would meet two days later to try to give an interpretation of what exactly the word "formation" means — appointment or election of Council members.

Supreme Court Chairman Views Campaign Disputes

MK2211093195 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Nov 95 p 5

[Interview with Vyacheslav Lebedev, chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Court, by Konstantin Katanyan; place and date not given: "'Justice Should Be Efficient'"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Katanyan] Vyacheslav Mikhaylovich, the Supreme Court has found itself the focus of public attention after a number of court cases related to the election campaign. Does this please or upset you?

[Lebedev] This is a normal thing. I am even somewhat surprised that the Supreme Court's role has been noticed now. All courts today have a very broad jurisdiction and the Supreme Court is at the top of the court pyramid.

Some of the Supreme Court's duties are provided for by the federal law on elections for State Duma deputies. And if somebody is unhappy over our decisions, this is only normal. We live according to the Constitution, whereby human rights have direct legal effects [yavlyayutsya neposredstvenno deystvuyushchimi] and define the logic of the application of the law. And this application of the law is ensured by the justice system.

[Katanyan] In other words, you do not think that the Supreme Court is now being dragged into a political game?

[Lebedev] No. The need for our intervention is only dictated by the law.

[Katanyan] But this intervention clearly does not please Mr. Ryabov. According to him, the court is effectively compelling the Central Electoral Commission [TsIK] to violate the law.

[Lebedev] I shall not comment on Nikolay Timofeyevich's statements. But I am sure that the Supreme Court is performing the functions entrusted to it — nothing more.

[Katanyan] Are you generally happy with the situation shaping up around the elections? Can you answer this question not as a Supreme Court chairman but as a citizen of Russia?

[Lebedev] Yes, I am a citizen of our country, and political events do not bypass me. They worry me, just like any other citizen. I love my Motherland and cannot remain indifferent to what is going on.

However, I have no right to forget about my official position.

Cases related to elections are dealt with by the Supreme Court, and therefore any of my statements, any of my assessments of a particular political phenomenon will be a violation of judicial ethics.

[Katanyan] Have you received no protests or complaints from the TsIK about court decisions to date?

[Lebedev] Only one complaint has come in.

[Katanyan] This somewhat surprises me, because I myself witnessed how carefully and painstakingly the judges studied the essence of the matter.

[Lebedev] These cases, which were of major public interest, were considered openly and objectively. The court did not make any backdoor decisions. A prosecutor took part in the proceedings, and media organizations were present.

[Katanyan] Nonetheless, some TsIK members accuse the court of becoming a "party" to the case, thus obviously losing its objectivity.

[Lebedev] The court only did what is prescribed to it by the law. In particular, the Law on Elections for Deputies of the State Duma. You should read more attentively the whole law, not only what you like. The law states expressly that TsIK actions and decisions may be appealed to the Supreme Court.

[Katanyan] However, the Supreme Court went beyond considering common complaints and asked the Russian Federation Constitutional Court to judge the constitutionality of one of the articles in the law. What made it necessary to call into question the vote-counting procedure in elections already under way?

[Lebedev] The Supreme Court is currently considering complaints against TsIK decisions and it is applying the Law on Elections for Deputies of the State Duma of the Russian Federation. In this process, ambiguity emerged as to the constitutionality of one provision of said law. Considering that cases arising from this provision could emerge in the future, the Supreme Court, in accordance with Article 125, Part 2 of the Constitution, sent a query to the Constitutional Court.

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[Katanyan] Sooner or later elections will take place and we shall have a new Duma. But the Supreme Court will still have the old problems that will have to be addressed. Some of them must result from the fact that the federal constitutional law "On the Judicial System in the Russian Federation" has not been adopted yet?

[Lebedev] The Duma adopted this law in all three readings. But the Federation Council rejected it, disagreeing with some articles. Now a conciliation commission of both houses of parliament is working on this law.

[Katanyan] The Federation Council session criticized this law mainly over the fact that the Federation components do not enjoy enough powers. But I do not quite understand what our senators are really after. Can a court that should defend the rights of all Russian Federation citizens, and do it equitably in all corners of our country, be regionalized [rastashchit po regionam]?

[Lebedev] I would say that you have asked not just a professional question but one of state importance. The Constitution talks not about some isolated courts, but about a single system of courts in the Russian Federation. This is the main question on which, I believe, there are some disagreements and some misunderstanding. They say, for example, that the interests of the republics as part of Russia are being infringed. And they cite Article 72 of the Constitution, which says that the personnel of judicial and law enforcement agencies are under the joint jurisdiction of the Federation components and the Russian Federation.

But if you adopt the position of those republics that want to appoint justices of their Supreme Court independently, you should ask the question: What is the jurisdiction of federal agencies if justices are appointed locally? There will be no joint jurisdiction then. [passage omitted]

[Katanyan] Money being very important, I should not like to end our conversation on an economic rather than a legal subject. I think that the Supreme Court has some outstanding problems of a purely legal nature?

[Lebedev] And very essential ones, too. A recent Supreme Court plenary session, for instance, considered the application by the courts of the Russian Federation Constitution as a direct-effect enactment. At present the drafting commission is working on the text of a ruling whereby the court, if it reaches the opinion that a particular law contradicts the Constitution, should directly apply Constitutional provisions.

[Katanyan] Is it not obliged to turn to the Constitutional Court?

[Lebedev] If there is uncertainty as to whether a law corresponds to the Constitution, then it should do as you say. But if the court is convinced that the law contradicts the Constitution or ratified international treaties, then it has no right to apply this law.

The Supreme Court has more than once made decisions using the norms of the existing Constitution. This practice also exists at the local level. But unfortunately, so far we have more than a few instances of courts failing to use the Constitution directly. As far as this situation is concerned, however, I think we should have a separate conversation to discuss all problems of constitutional legality in detail.

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ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 22 Nov

LD2211104995 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0540 GMT 22 Nov 95

["Press Review" — ITAR-TASS headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, November 22 (Itar-Tass) — Two leading newspapers front-page today articles examining the use of federal budgetary funds for personal enrichment of government officials and businessmen.

Carrying the article "While authorities examine 'the bread affair', the Vologda governor 'examines' the work of Izvestiya reporter", the Izvestiya newspaper also raises the topic in the same article on persecution of the freedom of speech, infringement of the rights of journalists as well as of human rights.

The daily writes about the baiting of Izvestiya correspondent in the Vologda region Viktor Filippov by regional governor Nikolay Podgornov and his lieutenants after articles published by the newspaper about illegal use of a state purpose-oriented credit for the purchase of grain by a private commercial bank chaired by the governor's brother.

According to earlier reports, the Counting Chamber had confirmed abuses of power by regional authorities, and the Russian president had instructed the control division at his office as well as the Russian Prosecutor-General's Office to examine "the bread affair" (title of Filippov's first article on this topic).

On learning about this, the governor announced the journalist almost a persona non grata in the region at one of his news conferences.

The trade union newspaper Trud reports that a man was detained in Krasnodar, south of European Russia, who stole state funds appropriated for the purchase of wheat for Sakhalin residents.

The newspaper informs its readers that a certain M. Syrmamed, owner of the Yakutzoloto jewelry shop, is suspected of embezzling five billion roubles received by him allegedly from the Russian Ministry for Emergencies. Itar-Tass learned at the police department of the Krasnodar territory that this is a part of a sum appropriated for hurricane-stricken residents of Sakhalin.

"Officials from the Emergencies Ministry do not know why the owner of a jewelry shop was to buy grain," Trud notes.

The Russian mass media devoted much space to the ongoing election campaign. Rossiyskiye Vesti newspaper devotes the greater part of its issue to analysing chances of various political forces at the coming elections to the State Duma.

Under the heading "Election campaign monitoring", the daily carries an article by Dmitriy Lvov who claims that "the lure of Communists and Agrarians weakens outside party lists, and their chances for victory are very low in many one-seat constituencies".

A forecast by the newspaper's analytical service is equally devoid of optimism concerning prospects for the Russian political movement Our Home is Russia (OHR). Devoting part of the front and the entire second page to the OHR, Rossiyskiye Vesti puts forth a paradoxical question: "Our Home is Russia: on the way to planned defeat?".

Referring to the opinion of several independent experts, Rossiyskiye Vesti notes that "the liberal-democratic version of reforms, commitment to which is demonstrated by programme documents of the OHR bloc, is more likely not to last longer than the present election campaign, above all due to the dubious nature of its further support thanks to the charisma of the incumbent president, which ensured, until recently, now virtually fully-exhausted credit of confidence of the popular masses of people".

The daily stresses that the formation of "the flagships of major properties" was carried out in Russia "precisely thanks to material and property interests" of these masses.

Izvestiya also examines underwater rocks of the Russian economy. Newspaper reporter Sergey Leskov who visited the latest mortgage auction of the State Property Committee on selling blocs of shares of very lucrative enterprises, found out that a Japanese bank possibly bought a major exporter of Russian oil.

The bank acted as guarantor of a Russian private and little known company. There is no need to make investments in the purchased enterprise: It is not a producer but a simple office with a trading initiative. However, this firm handles the lion's share of operations with sales of Russian oil abroad.

It turns out that Japanese will control Russian oil export from now on. However, everything is covered with a thick shroud of commercial secrecy. Whether this is the case, as the reporter suggests, will be clear several days later when time comes for buyers to pay for this purchase.

Under the title "strange trial — strange sentence", the Komsomolskaya Pravda newspaper informs its readers of the end of a trial in Kazakhstan of Cossack Nikolay Gunkin who was sentenced in Almaty to three months' imprisonment. The newspaper accentuates a nuance in this story connected, in the opinion of the daily, with an accusation (inspired by Kazakh authorities) against the Russian press which allegedly fans up passions around this scandal. "filling somebody's order".

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Yeltsin Issues Statement on Bosnia Peace Accord

LD2111211995 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2047 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, November 21 (ITAR-TASS) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin made a statement in connection with the overall peace accord reached by the parties involved in the Bosnian conflict, the Union Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia and its initialing to take place in a matter of hours, the presidential press service reported on Tuesday.

The presidential statement reads as follows:

"A major step has been taken toward the overall settlement of the most tragic conflict in post-war Europe. The leaders of the warring sides mustered the courage to be above hostility, mutual hatred and distrust.

"I believe that Russia, the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany and the European Union, working jointly in the framework of the Contact Group, have done considerable work. It is essential now that the sides should firmly adhere to the commitments assumed. They are equally responsible for this to their peoples and to the international community. It is only the continuation of a political dialogue, of the quest of compromise taking into account the interests and equal rights of the three state-forming peoples that can lead to durable peace in the region. International security and stability should never be threatened from the Balkans again. We are for arms limitation and reduction, not for arms build-up in the area of the conflict.

"It is important that the initialing of the accord be followed by the decision of the United Nations Security Council to halt sanctions against the Union Republic of Yugoslavia. Russia will be pressing for the lifting of the sanctions. The ending of the economic blockade of the Union Republic of Yugoslavia will be conducive to the development of all-round cooperation between our two states, will be promoting the revival of the region.

"I welcome the intention of the world community to render help in healing the wounds of war, in normalising life. The United Nations, OSCE, other international organisations and individual states should do their utmost toward achieving this.

"Russia's decision on participation in implementing military aspects of the settlement will be adopted later with taking into account all circumstances.

"Russia wants Bosnia to be a democratic prosperous state in which all peoples inhabiting it could live peacefully. Russia will continue to assist Bosnia in this.

[Signed] "B.Yeltsin."

Deputy Foreign Minister Comments on Talks

LD2211102395 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0325 GMT 22 Nov 95

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Lebedev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Washington, 22 Nov — "The decision that Russia should participate in implementing the military aspects of the settlement (in Bosnia) will be adopted by us later, taking all the circumstances into account," Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said on Tuesday. He was speaking at the U.S. Air Force's Wright-Patterson base near the town of Dayton (Ohio) at the ceremony of initialing the entire framework agreement on a settlement of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia and the enclosures to this document. He stressed that "in this connection the Russian delegation has reserved its position with regard to enclosure No 1," which deals with the military aspects of implementing the peace accords.

Speaking at a news conference in Dayton later, I. Ivanov explained that this position taken by the Russian delegation is motivated by the following: "The UN Security Council has not yet adopted a resolution defining the mandate and parameters of the military operation in Bosnia," and "the document submitted to be examined by the sides is the proposal of NATO, which has been drawn up in accordance with the criteria of that bloc."

"Russia has some serious doubts about the essence of the document," the head of the Russian delegation continued. "In particular, these relate to the absence of the necessary international political control over the military operation, the granting to the commander of the forces implementing the agreement of what are in fact unrestricted powers with regard to the use of force, setting the sides requirements which will evidently be difficult to fulfill within the deadlines, and so forth."

"The section concerning military stabilization, the boosting of confidence measures, and the monitoring of arms, needs to be worked out more carefully so that the balance of forces and security for everyone in the region can be ensured," the deputy minister said. "Hasty decisions on this extremely delicate issue may lead to the opposite result."

I. Ivanov stressed that, as an active mediator in the negotiations and a witness to the initialing of the agreements, the Russian side intends to continue promoting the development of the peace process in Bosnia. "After a careful study in Moscow of the accords reached in Dayton, as well as of the contacts that were made with NATO, Russia will be ready to continue the discussion of the military aspects of the settlement in this region,

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both on bilateral as well as on multilateral levels," the deputy of foreign affairs said.

Ministry Welcomes 'Reasonable Compromise'

LD2111211195 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1939 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 21 (INTERFAX) — The Russian Foreign Ministry welcomes the accord reached in Dayton, Ohio. "Moscow hopes that the accord will be initialled within the next hours," a ministry spokesman told INTERFAX Tuesday [21 November] evening.

According to the diplomat, the Bosnian, Serb and Croatian leaders made a reasonable compromise in Dayton to open the way towards peace in the Balkans.

U.S. President Bill Clinton announced an accord on peace settlement in Bosnia had been reached. According to the document, Bosnia-Herzegovina will remain a single state within the widely recognized borders and will consist of a Moslem Croatian federation and a Bosnian Serb republic. Those involved in war crimes will be ousted from political life, Clinton added.

The Russian diplomat remarked that the Dayton compromise was made possible thanks to combined efforts by the United States, Russia and other members of the international Contact Group for Bosnia. In this context, he recalled that the group had supported Russia's proposal to suspend international sanctions against Belgrade immediately after a peace accord is initialed. "We hope this will happen within the next days," he underlined.

The source said Russia's proposal to host a meeting of the Bosnian, Serb and Croatian leader under the aegis of Russian President Boris Yeltsin remained valid. "We proceed from the assumption that the 3+1 meeting will be held in the near future, considering that there is consent from all sides and that implementation of the Dayton accord will require further coordination and meetings," he added.

The diplomat said a Russian delegation headed by First Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov is expected to return from Dayton to Moscow Thursday.

Karasin Expresses Hope for Peace Talks

LD2111185895 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1639 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 21 (INTERFAX) — Peace settlement in the Balkans between the leaders of Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina will continue after the end of talks in Dayton, Ohio, irrespective of their outcome, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigoriy Karasin told a briefing in Moscow Tuesday.

He expressed hope that the process will proceed "without long pauses."

Karasin said that the continuation of the work to achieve settlement in former Yugoslavia will depend on the endurance of the truce in Bosnia.

Clinton Absence Said Due to 'Routine' APEC Agenda

MM2111161895 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 3

[Report by Sergey Agafonov: "The Pacific Is the Ideal Place To Settle Differences"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Tokyo — [passage omitted] The present APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] gathering in Osaka showed major differences in approaches between "Asian" and "non-Asian" members. While, for example, the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand are actively pressing for formalization of the APEC, demanding real "actions," the ASEAN countries, China, and Korea are perfectly satisfied with "words" at the present stage, seeing the multilateral forum as a "talking shop," a kind of club.

These differences were particularly highlighted in Osaka by the nonarrival of President Clinton, who pulled out of the summit meeting because of problems back home on the budget front. However, this official reason for his nonappearance was interpreted differently by the participants in the Osaka meeting. No "breakthroughs" whatsoever were noted at the Osaka round of the APEC; the American side's new regional initiatives, in addition to those already mentioned, were not yet ready, and it was unproductive to go there for petty squabbles.

This was particularly so as the lineup of bilateral meetings planned in the original program did not promise the U.S. President anything extraordinary — an inevitable discussion with the Japanese over the problem of Okinawa, made worse since the rape of a Japanese schoolgirl by American servicemen; a tricky and difficult dialogue on human rights with the Chinese; and another analysis of the "Pyongyang problem" with the Koreans. Routine across the board, whereas what Clinton needs in the present situation is to score a palpable success.

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NATO Expansion To Force Russia To Uphold Interests

LD2111172795 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1349 GMT 21 Nov 95

[By Anatoliy Yurkin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, November 21 (ITAR-TASS) — "NATO's eastward enlargement will change the world's geopolitical situation and will force Russia to seek ways to uphold her national interests," expert of the election bloc "For the Homeland" Major-General Viktor Gomenkov told ITAR-TASS today, adding that the military reform concept, elaborated by experienced specialists in matters of Russia's defence and military construction, notes that "in its present form NATO is a military-political anachronism.

"NATO's muscle-flexing policy, the arbitrary expansion of the bloc's zone of responsibility, the policy of its eastward enlargement, are primarily spearheaded against Russia," the expert claims. "Moreover," General Gomenkov asserts, "the North Atlantic Alliance, as a result of its intervention in the Balkans events, has obtained first-hand experience in conducting offensive operations on foreign territory. It has tested the effectiveness of its troops and armaments on an enemy, which uses Soviet-type tactics and armaments. All this shows that NATO is not our possible partner, but is a direct threat to Russia's security. It does not ensure Europe's stability," the Russian expert said.

"To ensure Russia's national security, it is necessary to perpetuate the leading role of the military factor — the armed forces and armaments," the general noted. "At the same time, our country must insist on the dissolution of NATO and should not place its troops under the command of NATO generals. If the North Atlantic bloc begins to expand in the eastward direction, Russia will have to seek allies in the Asia-Pacific Region to ensure its national security and to implement the principle: from collective security to the creation of united, and eventually single armed forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States," Gomenkov stressed.

Moscow Opposes Depriving UNSC Members of Veto Right

LD2111173995 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1340 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 21 (INTERFAX) — Russia is against depriving the permanent members of the U.N. security Council [UNSC] of their right to veto. "We believe that the five states' prerogative must be preserved," Aleksandr Gorelik, chief of the International Organizations Department of Russia's Foreign Ministry, told INTERFAX on Tuesday.

He commented on the allegations of representatives from some countries made at the present U.N. General Assembly session that the right to veto serves as a major obstacle on the road to democratizing the U.N.

As Gorelik said, Moscow suggests that the U.N. Security Council, which now comprises 15 countries, should be expanded so that it could "reflect the world's new realities more adequately."

Having referred to the fact that the debates are not over yet, Gorelik preferred not to say whether the proposed expansion of the U.N. Security Council should be accompanied by an increase in the number of its permanent members.

With reference to the possibility of including Germany and Japan in the number of permanent Security Council members, on which the United States insists, Gorelik pointed out that Moscow views the two countries as the likeliest candidates for permanent membership.

As he said, the United States has a more definite stand on this issue. The United States must have made promises to Germany and Japan, and therefore it is seeking to grant them the status of permanent Security Council members. As for Russia, so far it has not formulated its stand officially, Gorelik said.

Rules Published for Repayment of Debts to CEMA Members

MM2211111395 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 4

[Russian Federation Government directive No. 1527, signed by Prime Minister V. Chernomyrdin in Moscow on 2 November 1995, followed by "Procedure for the Settlement of the Russian Federation's State Debt to Former CEMA Member Countries by Means of Commodity Deliveries"]

[FBIS Translated Text] With a view to implementing the intergovernmental agreements signed by the Russian Federation with former CEMA member countries on the settlement of the former USSR's debt to those countries by means of deliveries of Russian commodities, the appended procedure for the settlement of the Russian Federation's state debt to former CEMA members by means of commodity deliveries is approved.

[Signed] V. Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Government

[Dated] Moscow, 2 November 1995

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Procedure for the Settlement of the Russian Federation's State Debt to Former CEMA Member Countries by Means of Commodity Deliveries

1. The Russian Ministry of the Economy is to clarify with the former CEMA member countries the list of commodities to be supplied in partial settlement of the debt of the former USSR and the Russian Federation and will process the accords reached in the prescribed manner.

2. The Russian Ministry of the Economy, together with the Russian Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, is to carry out a comparative joint evaluation of commodities included in the list agreed with the former CEMA member countries and an analysis of the effectiveness of the export of each commodity.

3. The Russian Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, with the participation of the Russian Ministry of Finance and the Russian Ministry of the Economy, is to determine on a competitive basis the enterprises which are to produce the output for export in settlement of the Russian Federation's state debt to former CEMA member countries and where necessary identify the foreign trade organizations which are to conclude contracts for the supply of those commodities.

4. On the basis of a preliminary accord with the foreign trade partners, the producer enterprises or the official foreign trade organizations will submit to the Russian Ministry of Finance and the Russian Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations proposals indicating the dates and cost of manufacture of the commodities in question, the cost of the delivery, transportation, and insurance of freight, the total amount of export duties and other overheads, as well as draft contracts with foreign partners in the creditor countries for the supply of commodities in settlement of the Russian Federation's state debt.

5. On the basis of proposals submitted by the producer enterprises or foreign trade organizations, the Russian Ministry of Finance will coordinate the plan for the financing of deliveries with the criteria stipulated in Paragraph 4 of this Procedure, as well as the plan for the final settlement of account for output supplied. If the plan for the financing of deliveries is breached the culprits will be held accountable in accordance with the Russian Federation's current legislation.

The payment of enterprises' ruble costs is to be made on agreed terms and in the light of factory-gate industrial and contract prices, as well as changes to the ruble exchange rate against the U.S. dollar.

6. Producer enterprises or official foreign organizations will conclude contracts with partners from the creditor countries for the delivery of commodities in payment of the state debt and will be held accountable in accordance with existing legislation for the prompt implementation of concluded contracts.

7. On the basis of contracts concluded by the producer enterprises or official foreign trade organizations, the Russian Ministry of Finance will finance deliveries in settlement of the Russian Federation's state debt to former CEMA member countries.

8. The Vneshekonombank [Bank for Foreign Economic Activity] will sign with the authorized banks of former CEMA member countries interbank agreements determining the technical procedure of accounts and settlements for the settlement of part of the debt of the former USSR and the Russian Federation by means of commodity deliveries to those countries.

9. The debt calculated by the banks in U.S. dollars in special accounts will be written off on the basis of documents submitted by the Vneshekonombank for deliveries of commodities from the Russian Federation in accordance with the procedure as stipulated in the interbank agreements.

China Shows Interest in Buying Diesel Submarines

LD2211115495 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1017 GMT 22 Nov 95

[By Aleksandr Romanov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] BEIJING, November 22 (ITAR-TASS) — The Chinese Navy is interested in the purchase of new diesel submarines in Russia. At present, the Chinese customers are interested in Russian-made submarines of a large size, ITAR-TASS learned from well-informed Chinese sources.

Chinese naval marines are especially interested in the submarines of the 877 type which are being produced in Russia, the same source said. The submarines of this class are considered to be the most competitive on the world military market. Under NATO classification, these submarines belong to the "Kilo" class. Since 1980, Russia has had 27 such submarines possessing excellent combat characteristics, which are in great demand abroad. Poland and Romania have one 877-type submarine each, Algiers owns two such submarines. India, which bought three more submarines this year worth over 700 million dollars, currently owns eight submarines of this class. According to Chinese experts, Iran and Syria intend to buy "Kilo" submarines as well.

A modernized model of the submarine — "877 EKM" capable to take 56 crew on board has been exported.

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The Chinese submarine fleet has called its attention to the newest model of the "Kilo" class submarines — "636" submarine distinguished from previous models by better equipment, higher degree of automatic control and better noise subduing characteristics when submerged, which prevents them from being detected. At present, there are only a few such submarines in Russia, but the Russian side made it clear that it was prepared to supply such submarines to China. According to experts' estimates, China might buy over a dozen of modernized submarines of this class.

At present, China has four Russian-made submarines operating in its Navy.

Military Detains North Korean Citizen on Gun Charges

LD2211103295 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0842 GMT 22 Nov 95

[By Yevgeniya Lenst]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] VLADIVOSTOK, November 22 (ITAR-TASS) — North Korean interpreter Hang Chang Gen working for the "Vostokrybstroy" company on a contract basis, was detained by Federal Security agents in the Maritime region on November 7. The interpreter was incriminated in an attempt to buy a gun for underwater shooting from a naval officer.

A source from the regional FSS department told ITAR-TASS that during the arrest a submachine gun used by Russian special task force units and a large sum of money had been confiscated from the North Korean citizen.

Investigators established that the interpreter working for the instruction company had acquainted with the naval officer of the Pacific fleet who had been looking for a contractor to repair military barracks. Discussing the terms of the deal, the North Korean had suggested being paid not only in cash, but also be given some property belonging to the military unit, in particular, underwater equipment.

Later, the interpreter changed his mind and asked for underwater equipment only. He asked the officer to sell him a gun for underwater shooting, offering around 3,000 dollars for this secret gun. When the officer asked whether the gun was needed to shoot at fishes or people, the interpreter said with a smile that the gun was meant to kill people, which put the officer on guard.

The officer reported about the incident to a military intelligence department. On November 7, intelligence agents staged an act of selling the underwater gun in the presence of witnesses, and the suspect was caught red-handed.

The interpreter had been sent to work for the Russian company by the North-Korean state-owned company "Chong Hep Zo", which suggests that the North Korean company was used as a cover for the North Korean Intelligence Service collecting information about military facilities and arms stationed on the Russian territory.

Industrial Cooperation Agreement Signed With ROK

MM2211114395 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 22 Nov 95 p 3

[Unattributed report from the "Monitoring Government Decisions" rubric: "Cooperation: Korea Assesses Our Industry's Potential"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A draft "Memorandum on Mutual Understanding Between the Russian Federation Government and the ROK Government on Industrial Cooperation" has been approved. The sides have agreed to create a Committee for Industrial Cooperation to be cochaired by a representative of the Russian Federation State Committee for Industrial Policy and a representative of the ROK Ministry of Trade, Industry, and Energy in order to put their intentions into practice. The sides also intend to simplify state border formalities for personnel and elements of production, including technologies, capital, and the sides' output.

Yeltsin Congratulates Poland's Kwasniewski on Victory

LD2111162195 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1340 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 21 (INTERFAX) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin has congratulated Alexander Kwasniewski, leader of the Democratic Left Alliance, on his election to the Polish presidency, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigoriy Karasin reported at a briefing in Moscow on Tuesday.

Despite the change of power in Poland, Russian policy toward that country will remain unaltered, Karasin said, adding that "Poland has been a major partner for Russia in Europe."

Moscow "positively assesses the current level of Russian-Polish cooperation and reiterates its desire to promote it," Karasin said.

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Daily Dismisses View of Walesa Defeat

MM2211131195 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 22 Nov 95 p 3

[Article by Vladimir Kiryanov: "Kwasniewski Won — Did Poland Lose?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Warsaw — Under Polish law the new president will take up his post in one month and three days from the day the election was won. This means that that on 23 December Aleksander Kwasniewski will be receiving congratulations in the Namiestnikowski Palace, the president's headquarters. The former head of state, who has said that he will not personally hand over to his successor, will be acting president until then.

Needless to say, by no means everyone in Poland liked what happened on 19 November. For instance, the church hierarchs said that parishioners had displayed a lack of responsibility for the country's future by voting for Lech Walesa's opponent. But at the same time, deciding not to whip up tension, they promised to organize a constructive dialogue with the new president. Similar utterances can be heard from representatives of a whole variety of parties and public movements. "The voters' democratic verdict must be respected by all," GAZETA WYBORCZA chief editor Adam Michnik, for example, believes. Including those (Michnik himself among them), who were not too delighted by the announcement of a victory for a leader representing the postcommunists. The main thing, Michnik stressed in a television appearance, is to do everything to ensure that a war does not break out between the two parts of Poland.

Is it surprising, however, that the congratulations for the victor from his opponents' camp appear not to be particularly noble and more often than not are tinged with bitterness. Have you gone crazy, Poland?, they say — six years ago you dumped the communist regime, and now you have chosen one of the figures from the old nomenklatura again. Others state plainly that something very bad has happened. Kwasniewski's victory not only signifies a symbolic defeat for the former anticommunist opposition, but also revives the spirits of the heirs to the dictatorship.

A third group is more self-critical in its approach, aware that it is not only a matter of the victor's "shortcomings." Assessing the reasons for what happened, they point to a people "tired" of the former president's methods of rule. His "military battles at the top," the old rhetoric of the era of confrontation between the authorities and the Solidarity trade unions, his aggressiveness and efforts to frighten Poles by talking about an inevitable showdown with the "comrades" and the destruction of the "Red web" entangling the country. A great deal of harm was also caused by the promises to send Jozef Oleksa's government packing immediately after the election and find a way to clamp down on the left — the parliamentary majority coalition of the Democratic Left Alliance and the Peasant Party. In this situation, how could the voters believe all the talk about the restoration of peace and harmony in the country if they voted for Walesa again?

Against this background his opponent looked composed and professional. He was not threatening anyone. On the contrary, he asked journalists not in any circumstances to start dividing Poland again into victors and vanquished — there have been enough divisions already in its painful history. He called on them not to try to frighten people by saying that strikes and demonstrations and social upheaval were now allegedly inevitable.

One can hardly go along with the view that by electing Kwasniewski Poles have acquired a totally unpredictable future or that the current situation is beginning to resemble the era of the Polish People's Republic. If only because the new president is more right-wing social democrat than communist. When Solidarity Chairman Marian Krzaklewski said that "Kwasniewski's election victory means his own defeat," you might say that he was more intent on impressing his circle. The author of this play on words explained it as follows: Those who elected Walesa's rival do not know the true intentions of the people in the left-wing forces' candidate's circle. They, the "Red web," according to Krzaklewski, will manipulate the president and direct his every step. The papers, radio, and television are crammed with opinions of this kind, painting a fantastic, Armageddon scene. But when the smoke of the heated disputes lifts after a while, I am sure that the country will start assessing the real changes on Poland's political Olympus. These changes have already begun to creep in.

As for the prospects for the development of relations with Russia, those who are of a positive frame of mind are expressing the valid view that Aleksander Kwasniewski, for objective reasons rooted in the complexes of "anti-Sovietism" and "anticommunism," has every opportunity to impart new momentum to cooperation with his eastern partner.

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Federation Council Rebuts Bill on Ties With Cuba

MM2111141295 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 6

[Unattributed report: "At the Federation Council. Russia Will Develop Relations With Cuba"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Federation Council has adopted a statement in connection with the U.S. Senate's approval of the bill "On Freedom and Democratic Solidarity with Cuba" (the so-called Helms-Burton bill). This bill envisages the toughening of the embargo against the Republic of Cuba and the adoption of sanctions against states, organizations, and individuals maintaining trade and economic relations with that country.

The Federation Council considers that the course of certain political forces in the United States aimed at isolating Cuba does not correspond to the spirit of the times and confirms that Russia will continue to develop its relations, including economic relations, with Cuba on the basis of its national interests.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks

LD2111194095 Tehran IRNA in English 1834 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, Nov 21 (IRNA) — Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Euro-American Affairs, Mahmud Va'ezi, arrived in Moscow on Tuesday for talks with Russian Government officials.

Va'ezi is carrying a written message from First Vice President, Dr. Hasan Habibi for Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin.

The Iranian deputy foreign minister in his talks with the Russian officials will survey the grounds for expansion of mutual relations, including issues relating to the Caspian Sea and the crises in Karabakh and Tajikistan.

Karasin: Moscow, Kiev Differ on Dual Citizenship Issue

LD2111174195 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1340 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 21 (INTERFAX) — Russia's and Ukraine's attitudes to the drafting of a treaty on joint citizenship "differ considerably," Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigoriy Karasin said at a briefing on Tuesday [21 November].

At a recent meeting of experts from the two countries, Ukrainian representatives favored ending dual citizenship entirely, he said.

"The latter means that, if such a treaty comes into force, persons who are now citizens of both Ukraine and Russia would have to give up one of their citizenships," Karasin explained.

As for Russian experts, they believe that "in the situation that emerged following the disintegration of the USSR, it is necessary to recognize people's right to be citizens of not only the state they live in at present, but also of the state they were born in or lived in for a long time, and not force them to choose the citizenship of one country," Karasin pointed out.

Yeltsin Congratulates Algerian President on Reelection

LD2111205395 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1754 GMT 21 Nov 95

[By diplomatic correspondents Aleksandr Korzun, Igor Porshnev, Yevgeniy Terekhov, and others; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 21 (INTERFAX) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin sent a telegram to his Algerian counterpart, Liamine Zeroual, to congratulate him upon his re-election and offer a further widening of comprehensive bilateral cooperation, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigoriy Karasin told a briefing in Moscow Tuesday.

Karasin recalled that more than 61 percent of Algeria's electorate voted in favor of Zeroual at the November 16 presidential elections.

"The presidential elections revealed some new phenomena regarding the internal political situation in Algeria," Karasin said. "The most important of them is that the majority of Algerians possessing the right of suffrage came to polling districts despite threats advanced by local terrorist groups against all participants in the elections," he said.

Karasin said this could be interpreted only as support of President Zeroual's policy aimed at restoring law and order and carrying out political and economic reforms by the majority of the population.

Karasin was confident that "the efforts undertaken to establish a dialogue of all political forces in Algeria refusing terrorism and accepting democratic rules will be successfully continued in the interests of restoring the internal stability and ensuring the country's economic revival."

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Political Issues

Yeltsin Jokes With Chernomyrdin Over Health Rumor

LD2111190095 Moscow NTV in Russian 1600 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Announcer Mikhail Osokin] In Moscow, President Boris Yeltsin once again today received Prime Minster Viktor Chernomyrdin in hospital. The meeting was again filmed for television. Those taking part in the talks explained themselves what was happening. They decided to visibly disprove the reports in the American press about the previous meetings.

[Begin recording] [Yeltsin] I was standing with my left side to correspondents.

[Chernomyrdin, nods] Uhu!

[Yeltsin] And when I was sitting down next to you, my left side was nearest — that is to say, they said he's photographed only on his left side. So, well, probably, it could be thought that his right side is paralyzed! [Chernomyrdin, laughs, Yeltsin laughs]

[Chernomyrdin] Turn right round, Boris Nikolayevich! [laughing]

[Yeltsin] Right and left! [laughing and turning] [Video shows Yeltsin and Chernomyrdin exchange places at table]

[Chernomyrdin] I don't know why... [Video shows Chernomyrdin laughing, taking documents out of briefcase]

[Yeltsin, interrupting] So I say, film the left side today!

[Chernomyrdin] I don't know why you...

[Yeltsin, interrupting] They just make things up, think things up, fabricate things, just for the sake of saying something. [video shows Chernomyrdin and Yeltsin sitting at opposite sides of table] [end recording] [passage omitted]

Yeltsin Approves Statute on Council of Europe Commission

MM2111140595 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 4

[Russian Federation Presidential Directive 497 "On Approving the Statute on the Interdepartmental Commission on Preparing for the Russian Federation's Admission to the Council of Europe," signed by Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin on 7 November 1995, and text of statute — from the "Documents" section]

[FBIS Translated Text] In accordance with Russian Federation Presidential Directive 359 of 4 August 1995 "On Creating the Interdepartmental Commission on Preparing for the Russian Federation's Admission to the Council of Europe," the appended Statute on the Interdepartmental Commission on Preparing for the Russian Federation's Admission to the Council of Europe is approved.

[Signed] B. Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation

[Dated] 7 November 1995

Statute on the Interdepartmental Commission on Preparing for the Russian Federation's Admission to the Council of Europe

1. The Interdepartmental Commission on Preparing for the Russian Federation's Admission to the Council of Europe (hereafter called the Commission) is a permanent working organ created for the purpose of preparing for the Russian Federation's admission to the Council of Europe and promoting the development of cooperation with it.

2. The Commission is guided in its activity by the Russian Federation Constitution, the Russian Federation's appropriate international treaties, federal laws, Russian Federation presidential edicts and directives, Russian Federation Government decrees and directives, and also this statute.

3. The Commission's main functions are:

— to coordinate the activities of the federal organs of state power for the purpose of ensuring the Russian Federation's admission to the Council of Europe and promoting the development of cooperation with it;

— to study the experience of the Council of Europe member countries in preparing for admission to the Council of Europe and for accession to its charter documents and in improving the national legislation and the law-application practice of European states in accordance with the standards of the Council of Europe.

4. In implementation of the functions entrusted to it the Commission resolves the following tasks:

— It coordinates work on the Russian Federation's participation in Council of Europe measures;

— it analyzes the effectiveness of the Russian Federation's policy in respect of the Council of Europe and prepares recommendations on questions of developing cooperation with it;

— it forms expert groups in accordance with the established procedure;

— it enlists, when necessary, representatives of the federal organs of state power, of the organs of state

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power of the components of the Russian Federation, and of organs of local self-government not incorporated in it, as well as scientists, specialists, and representatives of public associations;

— it requests and receives from the federal organs of state power, the organs of state power of the components of the Russian Federation, and also organizations, in accordance with the established procedure, normative legal acts and reference, analytical, statistical, and other materials on questions relating to its competence.

5. The Commission adopts recommendations on the results of its sessions which are deemed approved if a majority of the Commission's members advocated them.

The Commission's decisions on procedural questions are adopted by a simple majority of votes by the Commission members present at a session by means of an open ballot.

On questions requiring a decision by the Russian Federation president or the Russian Federation Government and also when preparing draft federal laws concerning the Russian Federation's relations with the Council of Europe, the Commission submits appropriate proposals in accordance with the established procedure.

6. The Commission is headed by a chairman approved by the Russian Federation president.

The Commission's composition is approved by the Russian Federation president following submission b its chairman. The Commission's members conduct their activity in accordance with the voluntary service principle.

7. The Commission's sessions are held when necessary, but not more seldom than once every three months.

8. Organizational and technical support for the Commission's activity is provided by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Yeltsin Establishes Commission on Legal Reform

MM2111140695 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 3

[Russian President's directive No. 496 signed by President B. Yeltsin on 7 November 1995]

[FBIS Translated Text] In order to implement the measures for the development and implementation of the concept of legal reform in the Russian Federation envisaged by the Russian Federation President's edict No. 673 of 6 July 1995 and the Russian Federation President's directive No. 389 of 22 August 1995, a working commission for the summing up of proposals on the draft federal budget for financing the work on legal reform and legal computerization in the Russian Federation and on the use of extrabudgetary sources of financing is to be formed as follows:

R.G. Orekhov — chief of the Russian Federation President's State Legal Administration (chairman of the working commission);

I.D. Moskovskiy — chief of the Russian Federation President's Finance and Budget Administration (deputy chairman of the working commission);

A.P. Vavilov — Russian Federation first deputy finance minister;

A.V. Maslov — deputy chief of the Russian Federation President's State Legal Administration;

B.V. Kiselev — general designer of the Russian legal computerizaton system;

V.A. Kovalev — Russian Federation minister of justice;

G.V. Minkh — deputy chief of department of the Russian Federation President's State Legal Administration;

A.V. Starovoytov — general director of FAPSI [Federal Government Communications and Information Agency];

A.M. Teslinov — deputy chief of the Russian Federation Government Apparatus Department of Finance, the Budget, and Money Circulation;

and I.G. Tsyganenko — chief of the Russian Federation Government Apparatus Legal Administration.

[Signed] B. Yeltsin, president of the Russian Federation

[Dated] 7 November 1995
Directive No. 496

Premier Satisfied With Duma Approval of Dubinin

LD2211120995 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1018 GMT 22 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 22 (INTERFAX) — Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin told the press he is very satisfied with the Duma's approval of Sergey Dubinin as the chairman of the Russian Central Bank Wednesday. He said that to a certain extent the vote was a historical landmark.

"Dubinin has gone through a good school. I think everything is going to be O.K. with him," Chernomyrdin, said adding that President Boris Yeltsin also knows the new bank chairman fairly well.

The vote indicated the effectiveness of the democratic mechanism of decision-making, Dubinin told the media Wednesday. He said the mechanism amounted to a week of meetings with different Duma groups and factions.

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The bank chairman said he would not make hasty decisions about the currency corridor. First he plans to meet several ministers and experts, after which a joint policy will be worked out with the cabinet and announced probably a month before the end of the first quarter of 1996.

In Dubinin's opinion, the election campaign does not directly influence financial policy, which is "an indication of the normal development of our economy and country as a whole."

Premier Meets With Regional Media Representatives

MM2111134195 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 2

["Own Information" report: "What About the Fish, Viktor Stepanovich? The Chairman of the Russian Government has held Meetings in Moscow with Representatives of Regional Television and Radio Companies"]

[FBIS Translated Text] When the informal part of the meeting with the premier was over, journalists asked Viktor Chernomyrdin all sorts of questions: on political and economic themes, on the forthcoming elections, and of course on the fate of the Russian nuclear missile shield. Is it not being destroyed today? Are we not rashly being unduly open with our secrets in this regard?

"There can be no question of destroying the nuclear missile shield," the premier replied. "But the real situation in the world is such that we do not need a shield on such a scale. Nevertheless, secrets are not being divulged and we have given our partners in the talks only those details that were necessary for the conclusion of the SALT-I and SALT-II treaties."

All defense industry workers should know, Chernomyrdin stressed, that a protocol containing a plan of financial expenditure on the state defense order was signed at the end of September this year. In October the financing of the government-approved "State Program for the Conversion of the Defense Industry for 1995-1997" began.

Journalists from Murmansk and the Far East tried to find out from Viktor Stepanovich how problems of recycling radioactive waste from nuclear submarines and icebreakers are going to be resolved. No one is going to resolve this problem for us, he noted. A program involving the Navy and the Ministry of Atomic Energy has been agreed, scientists have developed some promising technologies commissioned by the government, and the necessary funds will be sought.

...There was an unexpected question at the meeting: "Viktor Stepanovich, which do you prefer, fish or meat?"

This question was asked by journalists on behalf of Kaliningrad fishermen, who want to send an SOS to Moscow. They are fishing off the coast of South Africa but are returning home without pay. Where is the "Fish" program that they were promised and that has been adopted in the country? The chairman of the government promised to look into it and reminded the audience that it was because fish was cheap that Kaliningrad's fishermen received state subsidies. Now times have changed and they must adapt. But the "Fish" program will begin to be implemented next year.

Viktor Stepanovich sharply rejected the rumors of "intrigues" against pensioners — the allegation that pension limits are being prepared for those pensioners who continue working. No, no, no! he exclaimed. Everything is being done to ease veterans' burden, not make it heavier.

Questions relating to the forthcoming elections were also discussed, of course. Power in Russia must not become semilegal, Chernomyrdin said. The time has finally come to clearly designate the "reins of government" with which the reforms can be continued.

"As for Russia Is Our Home [NDR]," the NDR leader noted, "our movement is a movement of realists. I cannot promise what we cannot deliver. But whereas in 1995 the economic slump has ended and the worst is over, it is possible that in 1996 and 1997 a noticeable improvement will begin. This is a realistic program and must be supported."

Government Approves Plan To Tackle Emergencies

MM2111155095 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 4

[Russian Federation Government Decree No. 1032, signed by Prime Minister Chernomyrdin on 24 October 1995: "On the Plan of Russian Federation Basic Measures on Questions of Civil Defense and the Prevention and Elimination of Emergency Situations in 1996", followed by commentary by Aleksandr Sharov; under the general heading "The Ministry for Affairs of Civil Defense, Emergency Situations, and Elimination of Natural Disasters Against Emergency Situations"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Russian Federation Government decrees:

1. That the Plan of Russian Federation Basic Measures on Questions of Civil Defense and the Prevention and Elimination of Emergency Situations in 1996, as agreed with the relevant federal executive organs and

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the executive organs of the components of the Russian Federation (appended) be approved. (Footnote) (Not published)

2. That the federal executive organs and executive organs of the components of the Russian Federation, enterprises, establishments, and organizations of the Russian Federation are to adopt the necessary measures to ensure the fulfillment of the Russian Federation's basic measures on questions of civil defense and the prevention and elimination of emergency situations in 1996.

3. The Russian Federation Ministry for Affairs of Civil Defense, Emergency Situations, and Elimination of Natural Disasters is to monitor the implementation of this decree.

[Signed] V. Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Government

Commentary

Yuriy Shpakovskiy, deputy chief of a department of the Russian Federation Ministry for Affairs of Civil Defense, Emergency Situations, and Elimination of Natural Disasters, comments.

Each year the Russian Federation Government prepares a plan of Russian Federation basic measures on questions of civil defense and the prevention and elimination of emergency situations. It includes basic measures to enhance the readiness of administrative organs and the manpower and resources of the uniform state system for the prevention and elimination of emergency situations for operations in the event of accidents, catastrophes, and natural disasters as well as measures to avert them.

These measures are conducted under the leadership of the chairman of the Russian Federation Government as chief of the Russian Federation's civil defense and the Russian Federation minister for emergency situations as first deputy chief of the Russian Federation's civil defense.

I shall highlight the most significant measures.

In Penza Oblast there will be special exercises on questions of organizing the protection of the population and territories against the destruction of hydroengineering installation dams. Comprehensive checks and inspections into the state of civil defense and the prevention and elimination of emergency situations will be conducted in Kamchatka, Kostroma, and Smolensk Oblasts, Stavropol Kray, and the Republic of Buryatia as well as within the Russian Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Agriculture and Food. These measures will involve specialists not only from the Russian Ministry for Affairs of Civil Defense, Emergency Situations, and Elimination of Natural Disasters but also from the Russian MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs], the Ministry of Health and the Medical Industry, the Ministry of Architecture, Construction, Housing, and Municipal Services, the Ministry of Fuel and Energy, and other departments.

In the Maritime Kray there will be command-staff exercises on questions of coordinating the activity of federal executive organs in mounting search and rescue operations for people in distress in the Sea of Japan. It is no coincidence that this measure is included in the plan. This year the Russian Federation Government has entrusted the Russian Ministry for Affairs of Civil Defense, Emergency Situations, and Elimination of Natural Disasters with questions of the coordination of rescue operations at sea and on inland waterways. The first test was the rescue of the crew of an Mi-26 helicopter of the Russian Federal Border Service in the Far East.

Next year, according to established tradition, will end with meetings to sum up the results of the activity of the uniform state system for the prevention and elimination of emergency situations and the organization of tasks for 1997. This major event will take place under the leadership of the chairman of the Russian Federation Government. All the heads of executive organs of Federation components will take part in it along with the leaders of ministries and departments.

I have to note that this is not the only plan. More detailed measures to enhance the readiness of the administrative organs and manpower and resources of the uniform state system for the prevention and elimination of emergency situations to conduct operations in the event of accidents, catastrophes, and natural disasters are rehearsed in the plans of the components of the Russian Federation, the organs of local self-government, ministries, departments, organizations, enterprises, and institutions.

Officials Deny Grenade Incident Targeted at Duma

LD2111224995 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1643 GMT 21 Nov 95

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Gorbunov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 21 Nov — "Today's incident with the grenade has nothing to do with the State Duma," the press service of this house of the Russian parliament stated to an ITAR-TASS correspondent. Its staff denied the reports which appeared on Tuesday evening that a live grenade was discovered in the State Duma building or close to it.

According to their information, the grenade was found and disarmed by specialists of the law-enforcement

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bodies in a shop situated in the building of the "Moskva" hotel.

Cossack Army Organization Submits Bill to Duma

MK2211074095 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 1

[Unattributed report: "It Is Planned to Make Yeltsin Commander in Chief of the Country's Cossack Troops"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Russian senators propose to assign to the president the honorary duty of commander in chief of the cossack forces. According to MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS sources, the draft law "On the Cossacks," which provides for hetman functions to be entrusted to Yeltsin, has recently been submitted to the Duma by a group of Federation Council deputies in exercise of their right to legislative initiative.

The draft law defines the status of the cossacks and introduces a system of their state service, self-government, and land tenure. According to the law's authors, it will contribute to the revitalization of the cossacks in Russia and the preservation of their traditions. The 14 cossack armies and one regiment are to be stationed in their traditional areas.

Supreme command of the cossacks is to be excercised by the president. Direct command of the cossacks will be exercised by the Supreme Hetman. His candidacy is to be elected by the All-Russia Cossack Assembly, subject to presidential approval, for four years.

Cossack troops will serve in the Russian Armed Forces, on the border, in Internal Affairs Ministry agencies, customs, and environmental and forest protection units, with cossacks being organized into special detachments. The system of ranks will be in line with the established cossack tradition. For instance, the rank of the Russian army sergeant will correspond to that of uryadnik [under-officer] in the cossack army. A private will be called simply a cossack, a master sergeant a vakhmistr [quartermaster], a lieutenant a khorunzhiy [ensign], and a major a yesaul [captain].

The draft provides for the cossack communities included in the state register to be exempted from land tax and profit tax. Moreover, they will enjoy privileges in fishing and hunting.

Daily Views Court's Refusal To Examine Kozyrev Suit

MM2011102195 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Nov 95 p 5

[Article by Yuriy Feofanov: "Can You Call a Thief a Thief? Or, Why the Constitutional Court Refused To Examine Minister Kozyrev's Complaint"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] If somebody snatches your pocketbook in a crowded place, don't be in too much of a hurry to shout "Stop thief." Heaven forbid that they catch him. The thief will hand you back your pocketbook — which only has 10,000-20,000 in it — with a smile. And then he will file a lawsuit for injury to his honor and dignity, demanding 100 million or so as compensation for the moral damage. And why not! You called him a thief, he hasn't been convicted, and after all, we have the presumption of innocence.

Don't accuse me of fantasizing: That is the legal practice. Say, for instance, you use the word fascist about someone who openly preaches fascist ideas, or trickster about someone who has robbed millions of investors — it's pistols at dawn. Soviet people, who only recently had no concept of honor or dignity, have suddenly become as sensitive to a sidelong glance as Mr. de Treville's musketeers. And the courts, as a rule, take the side of the thief, the fascist, and the trickster....

That was what prompted Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev to take a radical step. He has gone to law with Zhirinovskiy, whose ideas he assessed as fascist. Kozyrev has gone further than a private lawsuit — he has filed a suit with the Constitutional Court seeking that the existing law on the protection of honor and dignity be judged unconstitutional — that law is to be found in Article 7 of the RSFSR Civil Code (Article 152 of the new Civil Coke). The suit looked odd to me, and I wrote a commentary to that effect. After that, I met with the minister to clarify the position. And another doubt arose: Was the Constitutional Court justified in refusing to examine this question? After all, it is a question of the interpretation of articles of the Constitution.

The point is that Article 23 of the Constitution guarantees everyone the protection of his honor and good name. And Article 29 of this same Constitution guarantees freedom of thought and speech: "Nobody may be forced to express his opinions and convictions or to renounce them." There can be no doubt, where facts (points of information, as they are called in the law) are concerned — a fabricated, misrepresented fact must be answered for, and the courts have a duty to enforce the refutation of lies. But what if an opinion of an individual or his actions is given in public (in the press or on

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the air)? Not facts, let me stress, but an opinion. If the court enforces the refutation of an opinion, it will in effect be forcing someone to renounce his convictions, which is contrary to the aforementioned Article 29 of the Constitution.

So there you have the legal merry-go-round. Andrey Kozyrev, in his petition to the Constitutional Court, raises the question of establishing the distinction between factual information and information regarding personal opinions. This last, in the petitioner's view, cannot be subject to judicial refutation.

Unfortunately, the Constitutional Court would not examine A. Kozyrev's petition, citing two provisions of the law. The Constitutional Court may not enter into an examination of the concrete circumstances of a case — that is the prerogative of the ordinary courts. And second, the examination of citizens' complaints may only be justified by "uncertainty on the question of whether a given law concerning the rights and freedoms of citizens complies with the Constitution." No such "uncertainty" exists — as the Constitutional Court said in its decision and as T. Morshchakov, its deputy chairman, said in conversation with me — in the law on the protection of honor and dignity. [passage omitted]

To return to the real state of affairs, specifically to Zhirinovskiy, he does not shrink from expressing his own opinions. It is quite obvious that the heat of pre-election passions today will provoke all kinds of judgments and views. And the courts could well be inundated with suits for decades to come. But the main thing is that the judges will have no legal — that is, formalized— guidance, and they will have to issue rulings willy-nilly on the basis of those political sympathies and prejudices that are submitted to their judgment.

The Constitutional Court, while refusing to examine Kozyrev's case, recommended that the Russian Federation Supreme Court summarize its practice and issue clarifications on the application of the law. Obviously that would be useful too. All the same, it appears that questions such as a clash between two articles of the Constitution, whether value judgments are actionable in principle, or whether a judicial obligation publicly to renounce one's opinion violates the right to freedom of opinion — all these are questions of law rather than facts. As we know, when it examined the "Chechnya case" the Constitutional Court left many circumstances out of consideration. By refusing to examine the foreign minister's suit it has declined to answer a most pressing question. Now it is studying the question of whether to accept for consideration suits relating to whether electoral laws comply with the Constitution. If it again transpires that this is not under the jurisdiction of the Constitutional Court, society may be disappointed in it.

Media Issues

Premier Signs Directive on State Publications, TV Programs

MM2111142395 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 6

[Russian Federation Government Directive No. 1455 signed by Prime Minister Chernomyrdin in Moscow on 23 October 1995, under the general heading "Russian Federation Government Directives"]

[FBIS Translated Text] To ensure the prompt distribution of official information on the activity of the Russian Federation Government and federal executive organs and the exchange of information with the executive organs of components of the Russian Federation:

1. The Russian Federation Government Apparatus is to:

— continue the publication of the news bulletin PRAVITELSTVENNYY VESTNIK previously issued by the Russian Federation Government's Press Service;

— organize in the prescribed manner the publication of the news weekly REGION, which will publish official reports, materials, and normative and other acts of the executive organs of the components of the Russian Federation and organize its distribution on the terms previously stipulated for the distribution of the bulletin PRAVITELSTVENNYY VESTNIK.

— and organize together with interested organizations the preparation of television and radio programs covering the Russian Federation Government's activity.

2. It is established that the revenue obtained from the sale of the news bulletin PRAVITELSTVENNYY VESTNIK, the weekly REGION, and of the aforementioned television and radio programs is to be used to offset the cost of their publication and production (apart from the cost of the labor remuneration of workers of the Russian Federation Government Apparatus).

[Signed] V. Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Government

[Dated] 23 October 1995, Moscow
Directive No. 1455

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Raid on Russkoye Radio Station in Moscow Detailed

OW2211062595 Moscow Russian Public Television First Channel and Orbita Networks in Russian 1900 GMT 21 Nov 95

["Dossier" feature of the "TeleUtro" program presented by Yelena Golubeva]

[FBIS Translated Text] Russkoye Radio [Russian Radio] went silent for about 20 million listeners in Moscow at midday Moscow Time [0900 GMT] on 21 November. According to its staff, 15 men burst into the station's editorial office. Several men were in police uniforms and carried automatics, the rest were in civilian clothes. [video shows interior of radio station, uniformed guards at door]

The senior man, Lieutenant Colonel Kovalev of the Russian MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] administration R — the administration that controls the correct use of broadcast frequencies — demanded to see the radio station's documentation. [video shows document on stationary of "Main Administration for State Supervision of Communications in the Russian Federation under the Russian Federation Ministry of Communications" dated 17 February 1995 and showing the station's frequency as 105.7 mHz] He ignored the staff's request that he await the arrival of the general director. [video cuts to show Aleksandr Bunin, producer of "Russkoye Radio," various shots in the radio station including a rack with an empty assembly slot]

[Begin recording] [Bunin] They literally burst into the room where the transmitter is located and disabled it by pulling out one of its assemblies. All the documents were also located near the transmitter, but they showed no interest in them. They said they were simply obeying orders. Now who could give orders to people from the Ministry of Internal Affairs? You know it is most unlikely that this person was personifying the law.

[Golubeva] Does the radio station have any financial debts, for its licence or for broadcast time for example?

[Bunin] No.

[Golubeva] None whatsoever?

[Bunin] Absolutely. Only a little time remains before the December elections. They are striving for power, for the microphone, to get on the air, and to reach people's minds.

[Golubeva] Have you approached anyone since this happened?

[Bunin] We called the Gossvyaznadzor [Main Administration for State Supervision of Communications] , the organization that issues broadcast licenses to radio stations, since th[illegible] is the only organization that has the right to suspend a station's broadcasting activities. They responded categorically by saying that, from a legal point of view, everything at Russkoye Radio was in order. They were amazed by the unlawful actions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs staffers, who did not have the right to confiscate any of the radio station's property without a decision of the procuracy or to suspend the station's broadcasts without Gossvyaznadzor consent. [end recording]

According to Aleksandr Bunin, Russkoye Radio recently refused broadcast time to one of Russia's extreme right-wing politicians, and now it is reaping the results. [video shows radio staff in studio, Bunin speaking to Golubeva]

[Begin recording] [Bunin] I am absolutely convinced that these were not the actions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs; that these were the actions of some of its staffers, who are apparently somehow linked to various political parties. People are striving for power, and that explains everything.

[Golubeva] Were you presented with a search warrant?

[Bunin] Nothing was presented. We were told that it was a planned inspection. They were either exceeding their powers, or they were acting within a framework or scope permitted by the law; in which case, our lawmakers are apparently writing the kinds of laws that literally permit extremist actions by law enforcement organs. The technical capabilities of the radio station are fairly extensive. We could begin broadcasting right away; we could have done it right after they left.

[Golubeva] Why didn't you do it?

[Bunin] Our experts warned us that this [action] was probably the first step, so to speak, taken by our enemies.

[Golubeva] Are you prepared to go to court?

[Bunin] The fact is that we are prepared to go to court. It would be a lengthy process so it is unlikely that we will resort to this.

[Golubeva] Has anybody officially banned your broadcasts?

[Bunin] This would contradict existing laws as well as the Constitution of the Russian Federation. Nobody has done this, and nobody can do this. It would be tantamount to somebody bursting into the Vremya program tomorrow and closing it down. But we recall that this occurred previously in 1991. [end recording]

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Lieutenant Colonel Kovalev promised to sort everything out by tomorrow morning. [After the "Dossier" feature ends, "TeleUtro" presenter Andrey Malakhov adds: "As the duty officer at the MVD Public Relations Center told our correspondent over the telephone, the action really was carried out, and the power assembly was confiscated because Russkoye Radio failed to provide documents for the license, registration, and operation of the Italian equipment. The last word will apparently be with the procuracy."]

Military & Nuclear Issues

Daily Examines Yeltsin Defense Industry Documents

MM2211100695 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Nov 95 p 3

[Article by Boris Kuzyk, aide to the Russian Federation president for questions of military-technical cooperation with foreign countries: "High Technologies Consolidate Their Position"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Now in what is for the public an invisible sphere determining the future of our military-industrial complex system-forming transformations are taking place. The country's president has sent the State Duma several very important documents.

The first of them is the draft law on military-technical cooperation. This is a very important element of the system which establishes in basic outline the functioning of the legal framework and determines the rules of the game in the very important arms trade sphere.

The second is the draft law on the state defense order (for the Russian army and for export needs). They detail relations between the budget, the army, and the military-industrial complex. If it is adopted we will receive an answer to fundamental questions: How the defense order is formed, how it is financed, what economic and legal principles are put into the state defense order.

It is from these provisions that the entire arms program stems which, proceeding from the tasks set, cannot be geared toward old equipment.

Why the arms program cannot be geared toward old equipment does not need to be proved to anyone today. Everyone understands at any rate that if we rely on old equipment we will require it in a quantity that no state budget would withstand. The entire country would be working solely to produce it.

What determines the immediate future of the defense industry?

First, there is the rearming of the army and, second, support and development for enterprises which are carrying out rearming and, third, help in the updating of those enterprises which are not in their number.

Under the present economic conditions it will of course be difficult to achieve these aims. But it is for precisely that reason the arms program which is being prepared inter alia provides for financing primarily for breakthrough avenues and the most advanced technological complexes. For that it is extremely important to have an approved budget for next year.

As a result of all our work we must acquire a complete system. On that plane transformations are under way at military-industrial complex enterprises which, I shall not conceal the fact, are giving rise to many concerned comments in the press. Without going into details I shall stress that fears of losing state control over the most important defense plants have no foundation. Control depends on correctly adopted founding documents enshrining the state's rights.

Here we can cite the example of the French military-industrial complex where despite the presence of private capital the state retains the necessary priorities.

So in Russia the state monopoly in the field of arms production will naturally be retained but in the sphere of the production of other goods made in large quantities at military-industrial enterprises no one needs this monopoly.

How do the military-industrial complex leaders regard the changes?

The majority of general directors who are very high-class professionals with a state and market mentality. Look at how productively Gerbert Aleksandrovich Yefremov ("Mashinostroyeniye" science and production association) or Nikolay Aleksandrovich Makarovets ("Splav" GNTP [expansion unknown]), or Veniamin Pavlovich Yefremov ("Antey" science and production association) are working. Also instructive is the cadres experience of the "MIG" Moscow Aviation Production Association where alongside the general director Vladimir Vasilyevich Kuzmin under the direct leadership of commercial director Aleksandr Nikiforovich Bezrukov a young team is working which has ensured the implementation of world- standard projects. The so-called financial bloc has been organized in a very interesting way here, a strategic analysis service is functioning, and the situation on world markets is tracked. It is no accident that the "MIG" Moscow Aviation production Association has entered a new stage of development: A financial and industrial group is being created which may boldly be seen as a real base for a future multinational corporation.

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Of course in the present state of our economy there is much that is contradictory and alarming as was mentioned at the meeting of leaders of the military-industrial complex and the press at the Central House of Journalists during the broadcasts "Russian Aviation" and "Russian Weapons." But as a whole the military-industrial complex or to be more precise the Russian high-tech industry is strengthening its position increasingly markedly.

Petrov: 40,000 Tonnes of Chemical Weapons 'Accurate'

LD2111195095 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1928 GMT 21 Nov 95

[By Anatoliy Yurkin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, November 21 (ITAR-TASS) — Russia's store of 40,000 tonnes of chemical weapons, reported by Russian General Staff chief General Mikhail Kolesnikov, is an accurate figure, commander of Russian radiation, chemical and biological protection forces Colonel-General Stanislav Petrov told ITAR-TASS.

Petrov said he was surprised by the statement of Aleksey Yablokov, a member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, intersectoral commission chairman of the Ecological Safety Council, at a parliamentary meeting today that Russia has produced a total of 100,000 tonnes of chemical weapons.

Yablokov said they must have been dumped at secret sites.

Petrov said the Russian Defence Ministry has no secrets about the chemical weapons, and sites of its storage are known to the Russian Academy of Sciences and Western experts, who had visited the storage sites under international accords.

The general said Yablokov has any possibility to contact Defence Ministry officials for information about chemical weapons.

Yablokov knows full well that Russia lacks the great funds required for disposal programmes, Petrov continued, adding that President Boris Yeltsin had issued a decree on November 6, 1995, setting up a commission on chemical weapons.

The decree opens a prospect for Russia's meeting its international commitments in the area of chemical weapons, Petrov said.

He said Yablokov undoubtedly knows that and exploits the rostrum to his ends in the election race.

Official Confirms Security of Miniature Nuclear Weapons

LD2111163195 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1552 GMT 21 Nov 95

[By Lyudmila Yermakova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, November 21 (ITAR-TASS) — Russia does have miniature nuclear ammunition, but panic over possible theft of it is unfounded, the head of the Russian Defence Ministry's ecological centre, Colonel Boris Alekseyev, said in a statement today.

His statement follows warnings by Aleksey Yablokov, the intersectoral commission chairman of the Russian Environmental Safety Council, at parliamentary hearings on environmental safety.

According to Alekseyev, a minimal weight of the nuclear charges is over 90 kilogrammes, not 30-40 kilogrammes, as asserted by Yablokov.

The ammunition is stored in arch-secure settings and have a fourth-degree protection system which precludes an accidental explosion.

Only the nuclear button, which is in the hands of the Russian president, can trigger this ammunition, Alekseyev said.

The military official said a restricted number of people have access to the nuclear charges. "For this reason Yablokov might be uninformed about the details," he added.

The miniature nuclear ammunition is "one of shields for Russia's security, and this is known in the world", he said.

Decommissioned Nuclear Submarines Said To Pose Danger

LD2111175295 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1340 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 21 (INTERFAX) — Over 140 nuclear submarines have been decommissioned in Russia today, but 50 of them still contain nuclear fuel, chairman of Russian Security Council's commission for ecology and Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences Professor Aleksey Yablokov said on Tuesday [21 November] in the Federation Council.

Nuclear fuel cannot be extracted from 7-10 submarines "for technical reasons," he said. "These submarines are the source of super-high danger," said Yablokov.

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Deputy chief of the Russian Defense Ministry's nuclear security inspection Viktor Kruglov confirmed for INTERFAX the presence of "submarines from which it is impossible to unload nuclear fuel." However, he said those submarines do not present "danger of radiation for the population or the environment."

"The Defense Ministry has recommendations on how to scrap those submarines," the spokesman said. It is necessary to determine a burial site for them and earmark money for this program.

Kruglov said that there are four disaster submarines in Russia: one in the North Fleet and three in the Pacific Fleet.

Federal Assembly

Legislative, Regulatory Documents 12-18 Nov

96P50019

[FBIS Media Note] The following is a listing of Russian legislation recently published in the press of the Russian Federation compiled by FBIS. Numbers within parens indicate approximate wordage.

Entries followed by the notation "Text" have been translated into English and are available in FBIS publications.

SECTION I: ECONOMIC LEGISLATION (EXPORT-IMPORT, BANKING, PRIVATIZATION, AUCTIONS, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT)

Statute On Licensing In Power Industry, "Ratified By Russian Government Decree No. 965 Dated 26 Sep 95."

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Nov 95 p 14) (1800)

Four Government Decrees Nos. 981, 984, 1046, and 965 dated 9 October, 9 October, 28 October, and 26 September Approving Appended (But Not Published) Statute For Licensing Activity Of Stock Market Middlemen And Brokers Engaged In Commodity Futures And Options Dealings; Statute For Licensing Pawn Brokers; Statute For Licensing Nonstate Organizations Providing Employment Agency Services; And Statute On Licensing In Power Supply.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 5) (50, 20, 20, 20)

Government 9 October Decree No. 978 On Creation Of Capacity For Production Of New-Generation Plowing Tractors At 'Lipetskiy Traktornyy Zavod' Company, Plus Commentary On Its Significance By RF Machine Building Committee Aide Dan Kurtsev.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 pp 1, 3) (750/450)

Government 9 October Directive No. 1385 Instructing Agriculture Ministry To Allocate R7,817.9 Million To Dagestan As Compensation For Damage Inflicted As Result Of Chechnya Conflict.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Nov 95 p 6) (100)

Chernomyrdin 12 October Directive No. 1407 Submitting Draft Law On Tariffs For Insurance Contributions To Pension Fund, Social Insurance Fund, State Employment Fund, And Mandatory Medical Insurance Fund To Duma. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 6) (200)

Government 12 October Directive No. 1415 Accepting Goskomimushchestvo Proposal Of Privatization Of Unfinished Meat Combine In City Of Raychikhinsk, Amur Oblast.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 4) (100)

Government 12 October Directive No. 1417 Approving Appended (But Not Published) Plan For Preparation Of Draft Legal Acts To Implement Law On Federal Rail Transport.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 4) (150)

Chernomyrdin 23 October Decree No. 1027 Transferring To Krasnodar Kray Federally Owned Social, Cultural, Municipal, And Everyday Facilities In Charge Of Rice Research Institute.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 1) (150)

Government 23 October Directive No. 1456 On Opening Oneksim Bank Account For Deposits From Participants In Auctions To Obtain Right To Raise Credit Against Security Of Federally Owned Shares.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 3) (150)

Government 28 October Decree No. 1044 Ordering RF State Committee For Statistics To Formulate With Other Ministries, Approve In First Quarter Of 1996 'Sample List Of Statistical Indicators Of The Socioeconomic Situation Of Municipal Entities.'

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 3) (450)

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Chernomyrdin 2 November Decree On Approving Statute On Licensing Activity To Operate City Utilities, Plus Statute In Question.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 6) (100/3400)

Government 2 November Decree No. 1082 On Amendments To Statute On Social Development Funds Of Tax Organs And Tax Police.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 5) (600)

Government 2 November Decree No. 1087 On Urgent Measures For Energy Savings in 1995-2000.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 4) (1400)

Government 5 November Decree No. 1089 On Urgent Measures To Stabilize Energy Savings In Winter Of 1995-1996, Plus List Of Consumers Not Liable To Have Their Energy Supplies Reduced Or Cut Off.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 4) (500/400) (Text)

Government 5 November Directive No. 1552 On Submission Of Law On Application Of Law On Russian Citizens' Savings To State Duma, Appointing Economy Minister Yasin Government Spokesman During Debate.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Nov 95 p 6) (100)

Government 13 November Decree No. 1120 Approving Appended List Of Foodstuffs Liable To 10-Percent Value-Added Tax.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Nov 95 p 6) (200/400)

SECTION II: POLITICAL (INTERNATIONAL AND CIS AFFAIRS, ELECTIONS, CRIME, POLLUTION)

Three Government Decrees, Nos. 993, 994, and 999, dated 9 October, 9 October, and 12 October, Approving Appended (But Not Published) Draft Agreement With Oman On Cultural Cooperation; Draft Agreement With Egypt On Tourism Cooperation; And Draft Agreement With China On Trade And Economic Cooperation.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 4) (150/150/150)

Government 9 October Directive No. 1376 Approving Payments Into Budget Of Mission Of The International Conference On Former Yugoslavia.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 5) (100) (Text)

Government 12 October Decree No. 1000 On Urgent Measures To Stabilize Sociopolitical And Economic Situation In Russia's Southern Border Districts Lying Within Dagestan.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Nov 95 p 6) (1500)

Government 23 October Directive No. 1442 Submitting Draft Law On Names Of Geographical Objects To Duma.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 6) (100)

Government 23 October Directive No. 1457 Accepting Proposal To Pay 20- Percent Supplement To Federal Employees And Specialists Posted To Iraq. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 5) (150)

Government 23 October Directive No. 1458 On Russian Mission To Bosnia- Herzegovina Following Establishment Of Diplomatic Relations.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Nov 95 p 6) (400) (Text)

Government 23 October Directive No. 1465 On Setting Up Of Joint Venture With Italy's Agusta To Develop New Multi-Role Helicopter, Plus Ptichkin Commentary.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Nov 95 p 1) (200/400) (Text)

Government 24 October Decree No. 1031 On Reorganization Of Some State Enterprises Under The Committee For Defense Sectors Of Industry, Plus Sharov Commentary.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 5) (350/750)

Government 28 October Directive No. 1505 Setting Up Russian Permanent Mission With OSCE In Vienna, Austria.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 4) (250) (Text)

Chernomyrdin 28 October Directive No. 1510 Submitting Draft Law On Amendments And Additions To Legislation In Connection With Adoption Of Federal Law On Custody Of Suspects And Persons Accused Of Committing Crimes. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 6) (150)

Government 1 November Decree No. 1058 On Questions Concerning Ministry For Nationalities Affairs And Regional Policy.

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(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 5) (500)

Government 2 November Decree No- 1062 On Measures To Implement Earlier Decree On State Support For Dagestan's Socioeconomic Development.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Nov 95 p 6) (1700)

Government 2 November Decree No. 1086 On Additional Measures For Regulating Earnings Of Staffers Of The Central Apparatus Of Federal Organs Of Executive Power.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 5) (300)

Yeltsin 6 November Edict No. 1078 Changing Membership Of Presidential Commission On Cossack Affairs.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 3) (450) (Text)

Yeltsin 6 November Edict No. 1079 Approving Appended Statute Of Interdepartmental Commission For Chemical Disarmament And List Of Its Members.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 4) (300/1500/400) (Text)

Yeltsin 6 November Edict No. 1081 Nullifying December 1993 Edict On Social Protection Of Citizens Affected By Semipalatinsk Nuclear Tests In Light Of Adoption Of Federal Law On Same Topic.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 3) (250)

Yeltsin 7 November Edict No. 1086 On Holding Of All-Russia Congress For Legal Reform In February 1996.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Nov 95 p 6) (300)

Yeltsin 8 November Edict No. 1108 On Interdepartmental Commission For Protection Of State Secrets.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Nov 95 p 6) (300) (Text)

SECTION III: SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL

Government 9 October Directive No. 1367 On Cooperation Agreement Between Samara's 'NK Motors' Enterprise And U.S. 'Aerojet' Firm For Using Russian Boosters For U.S. Atlas And Delta Rockets, Plus Ptichkin Commentary. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 4) (400/400) (Text)

Government 9 October Directive No. 1368 On Biennial International Exhibition Of Hydroavionics To Be Held In City Of Gelendzhik, Plus Ptichkin Commentary. (Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 4) (500/200)

Government 12 October Directive No. 1416 Approving Transfer Of Program Research Center From Academy Of Sciences To Russian Space Agency Jurisdiction.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 4) (100)

Government 13 October Directive No. 1419 Adding Obninsk's Karpov Institute To List Of Enterprises And Organizations Dealing With Nuclear Materials And Nuclear Weapons, Deleting Moscow's Karpov Institute From Said List.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 5) (150) (Text)

Government 23 October Decree No. 1030 Approving Federal Targeted Program For Handling, Recycling, Storage Of Radioactive Waste, Spent Nuclear Material, Plus Text Of Program.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 5) (400/5000) (Text)

Chernomyrdin 24 October Directive No. 1472 Providing 7 Free Aircraft From Defense Ministry To Gromov Flight Research Institute.

(Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 15 Nov 95 p 6) (100)

Chernomyrdin Appeals For Approval of New Bank Chairman

LD2211123295

[FBIS Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1100 GMT on 22 November on its "Vesti" program carries a 3-minute correspondent T. Aldoshina report from the State Duma on an address by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin prior to the vote on the new chairman of the Russian Central Bank.

Chernomyrdin says: "Respected deputies, I would like once again to say to you from the bottom of my heart that it is hardly likely that the country will be able to work at a normal rhythm without a chairman of the Central Bank. I implore you to look at and accept the proposal of the president and, as chairman of the government, I ask you from the bottom of my heart to give it your backing. Thank you."

The correspondent says that the deputies had no questions, and Dubinin's candidacy for the post was not put to debate. She adds that former Bank Chairman Viktor Gerashchenko, who was chairman while Dubinin served as finance minister, "said today that despite being new

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to the world of banking, Sergey Dubinin is capable and should be able to cope." Video portion shows Chernomyrdin addressing the Duma, brief shots of Dubinin and Gerashchenko.

Duma Confirms Dubinin as Central Bank Chairman

LD2211085495 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0814 GMT 22 Nov 95

[Transcribed Text] Moscow, 22 Nov — Sergey Dubinin was today confirmed by the State Duma in the post of chairman of the Central Bank of Russia. A majority of deputies voted at the morning plenary session in favor of his candidacy which had been proposed by Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Duma Adopts Decree on National Security Doctrine

MM2111141095 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 4

[Unattributed, untitled report]

[FBIS Translated Text] The State Duma has adopted a decree "On the Doctrine of Russia's National Security." After expressing extreme concern at the state of the Russian Federation's national security, State Duma deputies have drawn attention to the need to accelerate the development and adoption of this doctrine. Its adoption will enable the president, the Federal Assembly, and the Russian Federation Government to resolve questions in this sphere in a consistent and coordinated manner and in accordance with the Russian Federation Law "On Security."

The State Duma has asked the Russian Federation president to submit a draft national security doctrine to the Federal Assembly before 31 December 1995. The 1996 federal budget will be ratified in the light of the state of Russia's national security.

Duma Motion To Fire Grachev Fails by 21 Votes

LD2211115695 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1018 GMT 22 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 22 (Interfax) — The State Duma voted down on Wednesday a motion put forward by two factions to ask Russian President Boris Yeltsin to sack Defense Minister Pavel Grachev.

In their appeal, the Russia's Choice and Women of Russia factions urged the lawmakers to ask the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to "rid the army of such a minister."

The motion received only 205 out of the required 226 votes, with nine votes against and five abstentions.

The move followed Grachev's statement that he will order the army to vote for Our Home is Russia in the upcoming parliamentary elections scheduled for December 17 and campaign against the deputies who supported the bill reducing the length of military service from two to 1.5 years.

Faction members vowed that Grachev had violated the law "On Defense" which bans campaigning in the army, breached the Constitution and "besides, he is not fit for his job."

After the vote, Duma Chairman Ivan Rybkin said deputies will ask the Central Electoral Commission to give its assessment of Grachev's statement.

Duma Passes Law on Federation Council

MK2211122995 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 18 Nov 95 p 1

[Report by Aleksey Kirpichnikov under the general heading: "It Seems That Russia Will Not Be Left Without Federation Council. The Law on Its Formation Has Been Coordinated With the President and Passed by the Duma;" followed by commentary by Yelena Tregubova]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Federal Assembly's lower chamber has approved a new draft law on the "Procedure for the Formation of the Federation Council" on all of its three readings. The draft has every chance of becoming law.

As is known, three earlier attempts failed. Duma deputies stubbornly incorporated in the text provisions unacceptable to the two other agents of the legislative process. As a result the draft was once vetoed by Boris Yeltsin, once by the Federation Council, and the last variant was turned down by the president on 11 November owing to "flagrant violations of procedure" during its first reading (the deputies voted on the draft and their amendments without having the full text).

At the same time, all three legislators directed their appeals to the Constitutional Court: on the meaning of "formation;" on the impossibility of convening a new Federation Council in the absence of a law; and on Boris Yeltsin's edict recommending that elections of executive power heads in Russian Federation components be held in 1996. In the long run, the prospect loomed of having no Federation Council at all within a month, nor the laws it is required to pass — on the budget, taxes, issuing money, treaties, borders, war, and peace.

Deputy Duma chairman and famous polar explorer Artur Chilingarov drew up another draft bill within four days, and on Wednesday [15 November] it was taken

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by Ivan Rybkin to the hospital, where he visited the president. According to the speaker, the coordination of the draft went smoothly. The text comprises four articles — heads of legislative bodies of power and heads of executive bodies of power are members of the Federation Council by virtue of their positions; election of the latter must be completed before December 1996; local two-chamber parliaments must themselves agree on who will sit in the Federation Council; and the law becomes effective on 13 December.

Yesterday hard-line Duma deputies insisted on the former draft. However, Ivan Rybkin came out with a well-timed warning that persistence requires a two-thirds vote, although even half would have been enough — not for overriding the presidential veto (as there was no veto), but for correcting procedural mistakes, i.e. properly passing the law on its first, second, and third readings. Finally, the Duma approved the text endorsed by the president, and there is a fair chance that on 13 December, the country will have a new Federation Council. With Vladimir Shumeyko's term as speaker running out, he will retrieve his former deputy premiership, whereas his threat that the president will not sign the law without a quota "for membership in the Federation Council of several representatives of the federal authorities" will turn out to be a bluff.

The means of defense at the disposal of the law's opponents are scarce: Two of the three legislators have come to agreement, which makes the response of the third party not so significant. Even provided the Federation Council rejects the law on its own formation (which will not necessarily be the case), the lower chamber will overrule the veto, the president will sign the law, and the Constitutional Court will postpone the "formation" appeals until 1996 and will busy itself with the law on the Duma elections.

However, since the text produced by the polar explorer bears the traces of haste, a counterattack — again through the Constitutional Court — cannot be ruled out: The Duma itself has called into question the president's right to "advise" on the timing of elections in Russian Federation components. What is the Constitutional Court going to say then to the Duma's inquiry on its own instruction that the elections be held before the end of 1996? Another result of haste is the point on the membership of "the head of the executive body of state power" (and not of the executive power). It is unclear who will become the upper chamber's member, let us say, from Tataria — the premier or the president, and in the latter case, as the head of what, since the republic is not a body? [end Kirpichnikov report]

[Begin Tregubova commentary] Yuriy Algunov, head of the Federation Council's press center, told your SEGODNYA correspondent that "thus far there will be no official response from Speaker Shumeyko." Press center staffers at a lower level sounded a bit like people sitting with their suitcases packed, and off the record, they contended that "Vladimir Filippovich [Shumeyko] will of course be categorically against the adopted law, since it makes no mention of Federation Council membership for a federal power representative" (Shumeyko himself counted on this post). The chairman of the upper chamber's Legislation Committee, Issa Kostoyev, has claimed that the approved law is "unconstitutional," since "the Constitution allows work on an intermittent basis only for the Federation Council of the first convocation. However, in the event the chamber is comprised of local governors, they will work on no other basis than intermittently." Deputy Aleksandr Titkin (consistently supporting the view that the chamber must be elected, not formed) was extremely upset, telling your SEGODNYA correspondent that "Shumeyko was to blame" for such a law being passed by the Duma deputies, since "everybody has had it up to here with the speaker's demands that he be appointed presidential representative in the upper chamber, and the deputies were prepared to support any law that ensured there would be no room for Vladimir Filippovich."

It needs to be noted that the interviewed Federal Assembly members, being no local governors themselves, will not be able to gain access to the new Federation Council in the event the law passed yesterday is ratified by the presid . The leaders of Federation components, however, will perhaps be fairly pleased with the proffered "privileged" conditions for becoming members of the parliament's upper chamber. .

Duma Protests Hetamn's Trial in Kazakhstan

MM2211112495 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Nov 95 p 1

[Report by Igor Lenskiy: "Goddess of Justice Removes Bandage"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The State Duma has adopted a statement by 242 votes to two in connection with the violation of the rights and freedoms of Russian Federation citizens and Russian compatriots in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The statement points out that attempts are being made in Kazakhstan to bar political forces which reflect the interests of the Russian-speaking population from taking part in the elections. The policy of covert pressure on Russian Cossack organizations is turning into acts of outright tyranny toward their leaders.

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Deputies describe the arrest of Nikolay Gunkin, hetman of the Semirechensk Cossack Host, as a challenge to Russian public opinion. The State Duma is demanding the immediate release of Cossack leaders and an end to their persecution. The real position of the Russian-speaking population in Kazakhstan will be taken into consideration by the State Duma when ratifying bilateral treaties and agreements.

The events of the last few days confirm that the Gunkin trial is proceeding in accordance with a previously formulated scenario. The day before the trial started the Kazakhstani justice minister publicly read out material relating to the case and leveled charges against Gunkin whose authenticity should only be established in court. The minister called Gunkin a priori a "criminal" despite his having no prior convictions and even though the hetman may quite well escape with just a fine. Why is that? To predetermine the court's guilty verdict. Since a defeat for Kazakhstani justice effectively means recognizing Russian parliamentarians' complaints. And you will agree that is a matter for big-league politics.

In turn big-league politics in Kazakhstan is determined by the president. Judging by his latest interviews Nursultan Nazarbayev realizes that everything is not going smoothly in the interethnic sphere. But, illogically, responsibility for what is going on is being pinned solely on the Russian mass media. Moreover, according to Nazarbayev it is not just two or three publications that are inherently biased but...the whole press! And now it looks as though the entire corps of deputies is affected! Needless to say, that is not the case.

The verdict will be pronounced in the Hetman Gunkin case today. However, it will be a test of strength for Kazakhstan democracy. The question is will there be a quest for accord or another emotional outburst.

Regional Affairs

Chechnya Reportage: Bombings, Election, Negotiations

Zavgayev Attack Implications Viewed

MM2111134995 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 1

[Article by Vitaliy Strugovets: "Gunmen Making Show of Strength. And We of Concern?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] All the masks have been torn away. Since the events of the morning of Monday 20 November even the fiercest champion of peace talks with Dudayev's supporters will have to admit that the talks are merely a kind of screen which has made it possible to conceal the perfidious plans and bellicose mood of Dzhokhar Dudayev's supporters. But first a few more details about the incident in Groznyy.

On Monday at 0830 hours a cortege of four vehicles in one of which was Doku Zavgayev, head of the Chechen Republic Government, was on its way from the airport to Pervomayskaya Street. And at the side of the road a powerful explosive device went off, believed to have been set off by remote-control detonator. At the same time assault rifle fire was opened up from the roofs of nearby houses. Accelerating, the convoy of government vehicles managed to escape from its gunfire surrounds. Doku Zavgayev was uninjured but five of his guards were wounded.

A few minutes later in virtually the same place, central Groznyy, a convoy of vehicles containing staffers of the apparatus of Oleg Lobov, the Russian Federation president's fully empowered representative in Chechnya, was fired on.

The law enforcement organs are not yet naming the organizers of the attempt, merely making the traditional promises to carry out a careful investigation. But even without an investigation there are clear analogies with previous acts of terrorism: the use of explosive devices with remote control, as was the case with the September attempt on Lobov and the October attack on General Romanov, the careful preparation when at the site of the act of terrorism it was impossible to discover any traces, and the instant statement, as though prepared in advance, from Dudayev's side claiming it was not involved in the act of terrorism.

Incidentally, the latter runs utterly counter to the official statements of the Dudayev Government just two or three days ago. Let me remind you that they concerned the holding 17 December of simultaneous elections in Chechnya of Russian State Duma deputies and the head of the republic. "There will be no elections in Chechnya until the Russian troops are withdrawn," Movladi Udugov, the Dudayev Government's minister of information, stated 16 November. The next day he made a tougher statement: "The actions of anyone who dares to organize elections will be viewed as betrayal of national interests and punished with the full severity of wartime." According to Udugov this decision was adopted at the conference of field commanders.

By an irony of fate on the same day, 17 November, the Chechen Republic Government approved the idea of holding elections in Chechnya. Its head, Doku Zavgayev, thus automatically became a "traitor" and obviously had to be "punished with the full severity of wartime." Oleg Lobov, the Russian Federation president's fully empowered representative in Chechnya,

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who has frequently spoken recently of the need to hold elections in Chechnya, came into the same "category".

Incidentally, about the elections. Many observers immediately doubted the possibility of holding them because of the excessively tense military-political situation in the republic. In the past week, let me remind you, while the question of the election date was being decided, the gunmen became more active. Over the course of Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the federal troops were fired on about 150 times, losing five men dead and over 20 wounded. But the week's real peak of fighting came on the last day.

According to information from the press center of the federal troops' joint grouping in Chechnya command, over the course of Sunday 19 November subunits were fired on 63 times (49 times in Groznyy). Apart from grenade throwers and firearms the gunmen used artillery that day. Thus, near the population center of Bamut the federal troops' positions were bombarded three times by guided shells. Subunits situated near the population center of Achkhoy-Martan were shelled.

At 1930 hours a large group of gunmen tried to seize rolling stock from the Terek railroad station which was being guarded by special police from the Voronezh internal affairs administration on transport. The fighting lasted 40 minutes. At 2305 hours freight rolling stock was blown up in Gudermes: A locomotive and two platform cars were derailed. The federal troops' total losses for 19 November were four dead and 15 wounded.

You will agree that in the situation of constant shooting it is highly problematic to speak of the "democratic expression of will." Just as it is to talk today of resuming the peace talks. Dudayev's side through the succession of acts of terrorism against Lobov, Romanov, and Zavgayev, has graphically shown its reluctance to hold talks with anyone.

It is known that, having received the report on Monday's events in Groznyy, Russian President Boris Yeltsin voiced extreme concern at the growth of the wave of terrorism in the Chechen Republic. But whether this will be followed by any political steps is so far hard to say. From the army's positions the main thing today is to end the shooting and disarm the illegal armed formations. But it is virtually impossible to resolve this problem without using strong-arm methods, as Army General Pavel Grachev, Russian Federation defense minister, stressed recently. No, it is not a case of the resumption of large-scale fighting. But at least of the lifting of the restriction on the opening of responsive fire when the gunmen open fire and on the use of artillery and aviation. Otherwise every day we shall be doomed to add ever new figures to the list of irreparable losses.

Russian Prosecutor To Investigate Plot

LD2111200995 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1639 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 21 (Interfax) — Russian Prosecutor General Yuriy Skuratov sent one of his deputies to Groznyy Tuesday to investigate yesterday's attempt on the life of Moscow-backed Chechen leader Doku Zavgayev, Skuratov's senior aide Aleksandr Zvyagintsev told Interfax.

Earlier, Russian President Boris Yeltsin ordered the heads of the Prosecutor General's Office, Interior Ministry and the Russian intelligence service to take urgent measures to investigate the assassination attempt.

The deputy prosecutor general, whose name remains secret in the interests of the investigation, has arrived in Groznyy to organize necessary investigative procedures.

22 Nov Explosion in Central Groznyy

LD2211064895 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0630 GMT 22 Nov 95

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sharip Asuyev and Aleksandr Kharchenko]

[FBIS Translated Text] Groznyy, 22 Nov — Early this morning an explosion resounded in the center of Groznyy. According to unconfirmed reports there are casualties.

It was reported to the ITAR-TASS correspondents at the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Chechnya that today's emergency incident occurred in the district where an assassination attempt was made on the life of Chechen Prime Minister Doku Zavgayev on Monday, at the crossroads of Slobodskaya and Pervomayskaya streets. An investigation has begun.

Minister Confirms No Casualties

LD2211104795 Moscow INFORMATSIONNOYE AGENTSTVO EKHO MOSKVY in Russian 0750 GMT 22 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] According to more precise information, the explosion which occurred in Groznyy on 22 November happened on Slobodskaya Street at about 0700 local time. The nature and causes of the explosion have not yet been established, but it is known for certain that there were no casualties, the Ekho Moskvy radio station was told by Chechnya Interior Minister Khamid Inalov.

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Earlier media reports suggested there had been casualties following an explosion at the intersection of Slobodskaya and Permomayskaya Streets in Groznyy.

Yeltsin, Zavgayev Discussing Elections

LD2211113395 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0934 GMT 22 Nov 95

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Shtorkh]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 22 Nov — Matters pertaining to the normalization of the situation in Chechnya are the focal point of the meeting taking place now at the Central Clinical Hospital between Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin and Doku Zavgayev, head of the Chechen Republic. This was announced during a conversation with an ITAR-TASS correspondent by informed sources among the president's staff.

According to them, the president and the head of Chechnya are discussing, specifically, the increasingly frequent provocations, to one of which Doku Zavgayev almost fell victim on Monday, as well as measures to prevent terrorist acts in the future. The topics for discussion include preparations for holding elections in Chechnya for the head of the republic at the same time as the elections to the Russian Federation State Duma. The progress of the construction and rehabilitation work in Chechnya will also probably be considered.

Zavgayev, Khasbulatov To Run For Presidency

LD2211105095 Moscow INFORMATSIONNOYE AGENTSTVO EKHO MOSKVY in Russian 0920 GMT 22 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The collection of signatures in support of candidates for the post of head of the republic has started in Chechnya, the Ekho Moskvy radio station was told at the Chechen Central Electoral Commission.

Signature forms are ready, and groups of canvassers have been set up to start collecting signatures amongst the population. At least 5,000 signatures must be collected by 2 December 1995, according to the Chechen Central Electoral Commission.

Two candidates have been nominated for the post of head of the republic - the current prime minister of Chechnya, Doku Zavgayev, and Ruslan Khasbulatov, who has been nominated by the socio-political movement the Union of People for the Revival of the Republic.

Kulikov Preparing for Worst in Elections

LD2111171895 Moscow INFORMATSIONNOYE AGENTSTVO EKHO MOSKVY in Russian 1230 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] "I am confident that the elections will take place in Chechnya," Russian Internal Affairs Minister Anatoliy Kulikov said in an interview to Moscow Echo radio station. "We will assist in holding them. That is our duty. I do not think the situation will become more complicated with regard to the elections, but we are preparing for the worst."

"The situation in Chechnya is complex and is continuing to become more complex. Yesterday's attack on Zavgayev has shown that," Kulikov believes. "The explanation of this is very simple: a man, Doku Zavgayev, has has stated outright that Chechnya was, is, and will be a subject [subekt] of the Russian Federation, which has a sincere desire for peace. So his opponents, those who support Dudayev, do not have leg to stand on. The irreconcilables do not want to agree with this."

Chechens Against Elections During Hostilities

LD2111193995 Moscow NTV in Russian 1600 GMT 21 Nov 95

[From the "Segodnya" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Representatives of the Chechen delegation at the talks for a peace settlement of the Russian-Chechen conflict today circulated a statement describing the situation that has recently evolved in the republic. The statement assesses the forthcoming elections in Chechnya. The very fact of holding the elections, Khozh-Akhmed Yarikhanov, leader of the Chechen delegation thinks, will signify the rejection of the agreement signed earlier.

[Begin Yarikhanov recording] We think that elections should not be held while hostilities are being waged here, while there are so many troops here, and while the population has so many weapons. They will not be free or democratic. We suspect that this is an attempt to kindle civil war in the republic. Also, it may be a deliberate and ingenious measure to thwart the elections in Russia as a whole. We have long proposed holding talks. Let us decide how these elections should be held and we will hold them. The Russian side suspended these talks unilaterally and now, all of a sudden, it has set elections. [end recording]

In Yarikhanov's opinion, holding elections while armed confrontation is continuing means jeopardizing the legitimacy of those who may be elected. The Chechen side also thinks that success in the elections may be

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guaranteed not thanks to the participation of the local population but to a contingent of Russian troops.

[Begin Oleg Lobov recording, Russian president's special envoy to Chechnya] You know that no political campaigning is carried out among servicemen in the Russian Army today. Whoever does not want elections seeks a reason, is that it? Whoever does want elections seeks the means for holding them. A stable situation is the means for holding them! [end recording]

Lobov: Majority Supports Zavgayev

LD2111201295 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1706 GMT 21 Nov 95

[By Oleg Velichko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, November 21 (Itar-Tass) — Oleg Lobov, the Russian president's envoy in Chechnya, said the majority of the republic's population "supports the present leader Doku Zavgayev, particularly after the attempt of his life."

Speaking on Tuesday [21 November] at a meeting in the state commission for the restoration of the economy of Chechnya, Lobov did not preclude reshuffle in the republican government, above all in the law enforcement bodies, in connection with the terrorist act. He said that there will be no blanket changes, though.

Lobov believes more terrorist acts are possible within one month. At the same time he noted that the majority of the population is in favour of early elections in Chechnya.

Negotiators Criticize Groznyy OSCE Mission

LD2111200595 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1639 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNYY, Nov 21 (Interfax) — The numerous requests by Chechen residents to the OSCE [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe] mission in Groznyy about violations of human rights in the republic remain unanswered, Chechen negotiators said in Groznyy Tuesday. Chechen chief negotiator Khozh-Akhmed Yarikhanov handed over a relevant statement to Interfax Tuesday.

According to the statement, the OSCE has not once voiced its attitude to the implementation of the military accord by the warring sides. "Unanswered are the Chechen requests to invite authoritative international observers to the republic," it continued.

Chechen negotiators feared that "the OSCE mission, small and in fact limited in its actions, is used by Russia to misinform the world community of the true state of affairs in Chechnya."

Arctic Shelf Oil Investment Ready To Begin

MM2111210695 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 3

[Commentary by Vyacheslav Goncharov on Russian Federation Government Directive No. 1420 of 13 October 1995 as part of a feature under the general heading: "Northern Oil Awaits Investment"]

[FBIS Translated Text] As has already been reported in the press, the Federation Council failed to pass the law on output sharing approved by the State Duma, or to be more precise it sent it back for finalization. Meanwhile, dozens of Western companies which are ready to invest their capital in Russian projects are waiting impatiently for the law to appear. It would give them certain guarantees for working in Russia. But now the issue of investment is once again very much in question.

The only solution to this in advance of the law's adoption is to conclude individual agreements with the Russian Federation Government on sharing output. Especially for those who have already gone down the road of investing in Russian projects.

One of the first such individual agreements concerns the development of the Prirazlomnoye oil field on the Pechora Sea shelf. The Ministry of Fuel and Energy will conduct negotiations on conditions for output sharing, taxes, and other details between, on the one hand, other interested federal executive bodies and, on the other hand, the Gazprom Russian joint-stock company, the Rosshelf joint-stock company, and the Australian company BHP, which are putting themselves forward as a single group of future developers of the northern oil field.

Strictly speaking, preparations to exploit the new oil field have already started. Both Rosshelf, as holder of the appropriate license, and Gazprom, which has taken on the problem of funding, have already satisfied themselves that they cannot do without sizable foreign investments here. After all, we are talking about the Arctic, with ice up to one and a half meters thick. What is needed are ice-resistant platforms and special tankers escorted by icebreakers. Finally, an enormous amount of capital will be required for the construction of the terminal and transport networks. Several companies offered their services right away. But Gazprom and Rosshelf chose the Australian company BHP. A corporate agreement was concluded with it and it got down to work.

Today, the BHP company has already invested around $40 million in the oil field 's further development. But it has also frozen its work because of the lack of a legal basis to indemnify its capital against risk.

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After the conclusion of an individual agreement with the government, the work will recommence.

It is being proposed to begin work officially on the construction of the first ice-resistant platform in Severodvinsk as early as this year. Russian metallurgists and mechanical engineers will also be mobilized for its construction. However, the latest high-tech equipment for the northern ice-resistant platforms will be purchased in the West. To this end a tender will be announced, that is the company supplying it will be chosen through a competition. Meaning that it will have credits opened for it without delay in Western banks.

Incidentally, the provision of facilities for and the development of the Prirazlomnoye oil field on the Pechora Sea shelf means new social horizons for northerners. Severodvinsk will begin to build platforms. Thousands of people will be recruited to build the terminal. Many Russian enterprises will receive lucrative orders.

By the way, the north's Shtokmanovskoye gas field, for which Rosshelf holds a license, is also waiting to be developed. But that, as they say, is a matter for the future.

Economic Issues

Economy 'Beginning To Emerge From Crisis'

MK2111134895 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Nov 95 p 4

[Report by Sergey Kashlev: "The Situation Is Clearing Up. The Russian Economy Is Beginning To Emerge From Crisis"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Depressive economic stabilization — this official assessment of the current situation in Russia, taken from budget-related documentation — is perceived rather differently by various economists and by people from various social strata.

What really is the situation shaping up in the Russian economy? An objective answer to this question was provided by the Center for Economic Reform under the Russian Federation Government, which analyzed the macroeconomic indicators presented by the State Statistics Committee. Based on the results obtained, from the economic point of view, the year 1995 can be divided in two large periods. The first one is from January to March, when the consequences of the "soft" budget policy pursued in late 1994 reached their peak: Inflation was running at 17.2 percent a month, and Central Bank reserves dropped to a critical low: 5-7 days of trade reserves. A severe ruble devaluation was expected. As a result, substantial decline occurred in virtually all production sectors.

From the moment the federal budget was adopted and a government stabilization program began to be implemented, the situation started gradually to clear up. As a result of a tough budget course, the government managed to bring the level of inflation down to 4-5 percent a month, while the introduction of a currency band stabilized the rate of the dollar against the ruble at the [1 dollar equals] 4,500 [rubles] mark. All this allowed for the reduction of the deficit to 2.5-2.8 percent of GDP. Thus, financial control over the economic situation, allowing the government to keep the growth in inflation within a 1-1.3 percent limit, led to the natural revival of industrial sectors.

Following intensive growth in the fuel and energy complex, which emerged in mid-summer, perceptible progressive trends are now occurring in ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, and in the chemical, primarily petrochemical, industry. Some shifts for the better have emerged in the machine-building sector, with a particularly marked upswing in extractive service branches.

Therefore, even now there is a trend toward steady economic growth, when most successful sectors provide an impetus for the development of related sectors. The results of this are well in evidence. According to State Statistics Committee data, in the third quarter of 1995, GDP in Russia fell by a mere 3 percent as against 15 percent in the same period of last year. Industrial production, capital investments, and the volume of goods and services fell by 2.3, 14, and 10 percent as against 21, 24, and 28 percent in the same period of last year, respectively. The general upsurge in exports is reassuring, with a growth of 14 percent in the past four months, which allows Russia's economy to reach a positive balance in its foreign trade balance.

The economic indicators of the internal debt to GDP ratio and foreign debt to gross export ratio have improved. Therefore, compared with all other countries whose economies today are also in transition — Poland, Turkey, and Bulgaria — Russia has a higher rate of development in these areas. It should also be noted that a growth in labor productivity has been observed in a whole range of branches.

In the last six months there were success stories not only on the internal commodity market, but also in foreign economic relations. A positive balance of payments shows that Russia is increasingly integrating into the world economy and entering Western markets. Russia has all the objective prerequisites for increasing such penetration: The lower costs of energy, raw materials, and labor allow for the production of low-technology goods with substantially fewer outlays than in the West.

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Therefore, for instance, domestic aluminum products have always been — and will continue to be — competitive on the world market.

The volume of direct investments has also grown substantially — by 24 percent compared to last year. However, Russia failed to meet the planned target of $1 billion a year. Such caution on the part of foreign investors is apparently due to the fact that they are not confident that economic reform will continue to be pursued decisively after the upcoming elections to the State Duma. Therefore, in this situation the role of domestic investors, who have intensified their activity recently, grows appreciably. The export of Russian capital outside the Russian Federation has fallen sharply; meanwhile, banks are demonstrating their investment readiness by buying up state stakes in privatized enterprises offered for tender. To support such trends, a program to encourage household savings and turn them into investments has been included among the first priorities for the government. The program's major target will be support for the domestic banking system and the national currency.

At this point the question of the expediency of the currency corridor arises again. On one hand, it is a reliable financial stabilizer, a kind of inflation anchor lessening the pressure of inflationary expectations bred constantly by socioeconomic problems. But the disparity between world-market and internal prices is seriously affecting Russian exporters. Therefore, Sergey Pavlenko, head of the Economic Reform Center, believes that for the time being the currency corridor needs to be maintained, but the "angle" of its incline toward inflation should not be higher than 70-75 percent. At the same time it is desirable to reduce export duties, especially in sectors that are seeing economic growth. Import tariffs and duties, quite the contrary, need to be increased. As for the exit from the currency corridor, this objectively complex problem will have to be addressed in 1996.

It is important to note a number of socioeconomic problems that will confront the government in the very near future. First, to ensure a successful execution of the budget revenue part, it is essential in early 1996 to streamline the tax collection mechanism. The first steps in this direction were made this August, when all legal entities were given an individual qualification number in the tax files. Now another set of problems needs to be addressed in order to open latent shadow-economy money flows to taxation along with the legalization of many sectors of small and medium-size private business. Furthermore, the government plans to revise the list of regions receiving budget subsidies as well as interregional subsidy quotas.

Only if these questions are resolved successfully is it possible to expect the fulfillment of all optimistic forecasts for the development of the financial situation in Russia in 1996, namely — a fall in inflation to 1-2 percent a month and 1.5-2.5 percent monthly growth in industrial production, with an increase in GDP of 1-3 percent.

Another problem constantly daunting the Russian economy is the remaining imbalance between the rate of the growth of prices for manufactured goods and consumer market prices. In this respect activity by the state as a regulator of relations between producer and consumer is highly essential.

A separate set of questions arising from the financial consequences of the government's tough budget course are socioeconomic problems. The main problem here is the noticeable lag in the population's real incomes behind the late 1994 level. Importantly, according to the State Statistics Committee, in the third quarter of 1995 the implementation of the government stabilization program did not lead to a lowering of the population's incomes; quite the contrary, they are actually growing, even if slowly. Therefore, the reasons for the lag should be looked for in the disparity of incomes among the different strata of society.

The problem of pensions and, correspondingly, state and nonstate pension funds is no less acute. In this country the effective purchasing power of pensions is 44-45 percent of the average wage level. This is a rather high indicator because, for instance, in the United States it is a mere 10-15 percent. The difference is that in Russia the purchasing power of the average "budget-provided" wage is very low.

The current situation on Russia's labor market is also rather complicated. Although, owing to latent employment and an upsurge in some sectors, substantial unemployment growth was avoided, its potential, and especially structural, level remains rather high. Thus, according to official estimates, the number of registered unemployed was a mere 2.2 percent of the able-bodied population. However, according to estimates based on methodology adopted by the International Labor Organization, this level has increased 4-4.5 times.

And finally, the problems of the Russian Federation's relations with the CIS countries. During the time when Russia was providing these countries with large targeted loans for the development of their industry and the maintenance of the ruble zone, they ran up formidable debts. Of course, they are in no position to repay them now. On the other hand, "softer" economic laws allowed a number of countries to organize the production of some goods that they could successfully sell to Russia.

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This leads to a kind of unfair competition on the Russian market. The deep contradictions that have emerged in the integration of CIS economies can be addressed only by government decrees that should ensure that the economic laws of countries entering the Russian market conform to our standards, so as to protect the domestic producer.

Central Bank To Tighten Controls on Securities Market

MM2111144695 Moscow FINANSOVYYE IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Nov 95 p 3

[Report by Aleksandr Stroganov: "Central Bank Steps Up Control of Securities Market" — received via Internet]

[FBIS Translated Text] From 1 January 1996 the Bank of Russia will set the commercial banks a ceiling for the purchase of shares in other corporate bodies, it was announced by Dmitriy Budakov, deputy director of the Securities Department of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation, speaking at a seminar at the Russian Association of Industrial Construction Banks (Russia). This will include the banks' investments in the incorporation capital of non-joint-stock companies. Provision is made for this in the Federal Law on the Central Bank of the Russian Federation. It is not proposed to impose restrictions on the purchase of controlling blocks of shares in enterprises.

The Central Bank also intends to ensure that stock exchanges report fluctuations in the value of securities on the market in the course of the day, which will make it possible to expose unscrupulousness on the part of certain dealers and brokers when carrying out transactions for their clients. A proper securities market cannot be created without civilized mechanisms for the disclosure of information, Budakov stated, and many banks realize that.

Among the Central Bank's new transactions on the securities market in 1996, Budakov mentioned repo deals and Lombard credits. This will help tackle the commercial banks' liquidity problems. As for promissory notes, at the moment the bank is not planning to organize or carry out recalculation operations, and will be able to do this only in a few years' time.

In conclusion, Dmitriy Budakov announced that work is under way to organize a non-exchange securities market through the International Credit Union, which will have the right to record such deals.

Candidate for Central Bank Chairmanship Interviewed

MM2211105795 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Nov 95 p 2

[Interview with Sergey Dubinin, candidate for the Central Bank of Russia chairmanship, by Mikhail Berger under the general heading "Candidate for Head of Central Bank Believes Russia Needs More Banks and Banking Control"; date and place not given — first two paragraphs are introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Duma will examine the candidates for the post of head of the Central Bank of Russia 22 November. If the Duma supports the president's proposal, there is a pretty good chance that the Central Bank will be headed by Sergey Dubinin.

On the eve of the decision the contender gave an interview to IZVESTIYA.

[Berger] The Central Bank is a complex mechanism and, to a certain extent, a professionally inward-looking organization. Are you worried, Sergey Konstantinovich, about being an outsider who would find it difficult to run this mechanism?

[Dubinin] I would like to note that Viktor Vladimirovich Gerashchenko, who is highly respected in banking circles, did not spend all of his time at the State Bank either, but spent a considerable proportion of his career in Soviet foreign banks, which differ substantially from "domestic" lending institutions. I can see no insuperable obstacles to my taking this job. There are some problems, of course, but I am disinclined to exaggerate them. I even think that the bank might benefit from a somewhat nondepartmental approach.

[Berger] It is being rumored that you will be bringing your own "deputies" to the Central Bank, and that this will create internal conflict and have a negative impact on the effectiveness of the entire bank.

[Dubinin] There is no secret that any new leader has problems when it comes to putting a team together. I hope that, if endorsed by the Duma, I will be able to rely in particular on those currently working at the Central Bank and on those who have worked there in the past. "Outsiders" could be brought in as well, of course, but in principle I am planning no abrupt personnel changes.

[Berger] What do you plan to do first of all?

[Dubinin] To my mind, we already have a pretty sound — albeit as yet incomplete — legislative basis for the Central Bank's activity. This means that the time for improvisation is over and we need to move from revolutionary work to routine work. By routine work

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I mean a predictable model, understood by all, for the functioning of the Central Bank as an organization that operates under strict and fully understood rules — regarding which issues we resolve and when, when we respond to requests and on which forms....

I will also be trying to ensure that the bank does not issue documents which have a retrospective effect — something that, sadly, is still the case to this day. This was the case, for instance, with bank taxation this year, when the banks were forced to retrospectively recalculate their taxable base. It was also the case with the recent Finance Ministry instruction to all enterprises, which overturns virtually the entire tax regime in this country and came into operation from the start of this year.

Our strategic task is to lower the overall level of interest rates. The Central Bank interest rate is currently so high that it has virtually no impact on the market. This is a complex range of issues which has to be resolved in coordination with the government and the commercial banks.

[Berger] Representatives of small and medium banks have recently been claiming that the Central Bank is pursuing a purposeful policy of cutting the number of banks in the country on the grounds that there are too many of them. Do you plan to pursue this policy of concentrating banking capital?

[Dubinin] I am not sure that the charge is indeed well-founded. As for the number of banks, I believe that, for a country such as Russia, there are not enough either in terms of number or, above all, in terms of type of bank. The fact that the Central Bank has to carry out its monitoring functions more actively so as to insure depositors against all kinds of surprises is another matter.

[Berger] The Central Bank is notorious for its secretiveness. Do you plan to change any aspects of the bank's information policy?

[Dubinin] There is a concept of secrets that covers state secrets, business secrets, and official secrets. But the Central Bank should not be a closed information area. We will be trying to lay down clear rules on the amounts and dates for the publication of all necessary banking statistics, and on access to information for all interested parties, including the press.

Chelyabinsk Plant Expects To Receive Pentagon Order

LD2111202495 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1639 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CHELYABINSK, Nov 21 (Interfax-Eurasia) — Chelyabinsk-based Uralavtopritsep, a major Russian producer of trailers, expects to receive a large-scale order from the U.S. defense Department.

Eduard Net, the company's technical director, told Interfax-Eurasia that under a Pentagon order, the U.S. TRII company and Uralavtopritsep signed a contract on the production of the experimental model of a semi-trailer with load capacity of 65 tonnes and worth $100,000. After testing the semi-trailer in various U.S. climatic zones, the Pentagon may order 130 such semi-trailers, over $13 million, for the U.S. army.

Fear of Inflation Drives Russians To Buy Dollars

LD2211103495 Moscow 2x2 Television in Russian 0530 GMT 22 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Over the last three months the population of Russia has bought up an unprecedented amount of foreign currency in cash. This was said on Tuesday by (Andrey Illarionov), director of the Institute of Economic Analysis. According to his information, in October Russians acquired an unprecedented number of dollars — more than 3.1 billion. Illarionov believes this reflects people's fears with regard to another upsurge of inflation as a result of the elections.

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International Affairs

Kuchma Congratulates Kwasniewski on Election Victory

LD2111225395 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1915 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev — Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has sent a letter of greetings to the newly elected president of the Polish Republic, Aleksander Kwasniewski. In his letter, President Kuchma congratulated Kwasniewski on his election victory and reaffirmed his unchanged desire to continue and develop a political dialogue between Ukraine and Poland.

Kuchma, Latvia's Ulmanis Discuss Bilateral Agreements

LD2111221395 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1915 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev, 21 Nov — Ukraine and Latvia signed seven bilateral agreements during the first day of a state visit by Latvian President Guntis Ulmanis. The two countries' governments signed a free trade agreement, a protocol on information exchange between the foreign ministries, a convention on the avoidance of double taxation and prevention of tax evasion with regard to income and property tax, agreements on the employment and social protection of either country's residents working in the territory of another, an agreement on cooperation in education, science and culture, and agreements between the two countries' interior ministries on cooperation in the fight against organized crime and the transit of individuals taken into police custody.

Speaking to journalists, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma said today's agreements completed the legislative framework for a free trade area between Ukraine and the Baltic states. The Ukrainian president thanked the Latvian Government for its support in Ukraine's entry to the Council of Europe. Kuchma expressed dissatisfaction with the poor use of existing potential for the two countries' economic cooperation.

President Ulmanis said there were no disputes between Ukraine and Latvia and stressed the need to boost economic ties. Ulmanis paid tribute to Ukraine's stabilizing role in Europe. The presidents expressed a common desire to develop normal relations with Russia.

Defense Cooperation Agreement Signed With Austria

LD2111230695 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1915 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev, 21 Nov — Ukrainian Defense Minister Valeriy Shmarov, who is visiting Austria, and Austrian Defense Minister Werner Fasslabend have signed an agreement on military cooperation, the Ukrainian Defense Ministry Press Service told UNIAN. Under the accord, the two Defense Ministries will cooperate in peacekeeping, European security, military personnel training, war medicine, economics, and other aspects.

Shmarov held talks with Austrian National Council President Heinz Fischer on European security, the prospects for NATO's expansion to the east, and the two countries' positions on the issue. The two officials also discussed Ukraine's further participation in the UN peacekeeping operations in Bosnia.

The Ukrainian minister delivered a lecture to students at the Maria-Theresa military academy.

Lazarenko, Soskovets on Natural Gas Debt to Russia

LD2111202195 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1639 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Nov 21 (Interfax) — Ukraine expects to repay its 240-billion-ruble debt to Russia for this year's natural gas supplies by next January. This statement was made by First Deputy Ukrainian Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko on Wednesday during talks with his Russian counterpart Oleg Soskovets. He said that a quarter of the debt will be covered with products of the metallurgical industry and by raw materials for Russian foundries.

Lazarenko also said that Ukraine's total debt to Russia for this year has amounted to $186 million, compared to $133 million for last year. Ukraine plans to cover $60 million of the debts by supplies to Russia of nine fishing vessels.

Soskovets described cooperation in the creation of joint financial-industrial groups (JFIG) as a top priority. He said the priorities of the two countries' governments and their domestic markets will be of primary importance. He warned that if the opportunity to create joint financial-industrial groups is missed, there are third forces which can take advantage of the situation and take control of the two countries' markets where JFIGs would have worked efficiently.

Russian Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy Shafrannik, who also took part in the talks, said that this year Russian-Ukrainian trade turnover has grown by 1 percent. He believes that next year the trade turnover will grow primarily through more Russian energy supplies to Ukraine.

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Economic Cooperation With Cuba Given 'Green Light'

AU2111162395 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 17 Nov 95 p 4

[Report by Valentyna Pysanska: "Quite Possible, as a Matter of Fact. If One Feels Like It" — first paragraph published in a box]

[FBIS Translated Text] When, almost one year ago, I met with the newly appointed Cuban ambassador to Ukraine Sergio Lopez Brel, it was, perhaps his enthusiasm that impressed me most — the word, almost forgotten, and undeservedly so, that was used, in the past, during socialism, to describe the spiritual state: If one has a goal, that goal will undoubtedly be achieved.

Just recall one year ago: Who at that time seriously considered prospects for cooperation with distant Cuba, which, despite everything, proceeds along its own road? The Cuban ambassador has his own point of view on this matter: Once there exists pluralism in the world, why shouldn't this choice be respected and treated with tolerance?

Also, despite all objective circumstances and situations that took shape, Sergio Lopez Brel said at that time:

"We and Ukraine have common interests in machine building, transport deliveries, electronic, and power engineering branches, as well as in the banking system, not to mention health protection. I am, therefore, convinced that we will find one another for cooperation in the near future."

At that time, the ambassador did not just see the future, but also did not really show annoyance because Ukraine had forgotten somewhat about the quite recent cooperation with Cuba. The latter, guilty of something it never did, had a very difficult time after the disintegration of the commonwealth of socialist countries: Plants that processed nickel ore were halted due to the shortage of raw materials; thousands of metric tons of citrus fruits and 4 million metric tons of sugar remained undelivered and become redundant. Incidentally, Ukraine had to ration sugar for its citizens....

In just one year the situation has changed: The two countries have taken a step toward each other. The visit by Ukraine's Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk to Cuba at the end of October, when important meetings and talks took place, ultimately set clear weather in Ukrainian-Cuban relations and gave an impetus to fruitful cooperation.

This week, an intergovernmental Ukrainian-Cuban commission for issues of trade-economic and scientific-technological cooperation has worked in Kiev. Ihor Podolyev, Ukraine's deputy minister for external economic ties, and German Amado-Blanco Fernandez, Cuban deputy minister of external trade, took part in its work.

A number of joint documents were signed that give the "green light" to bilateral cooperation. It seems to me, however, that two persons received the greatest pleasure from the work that was accomplished — Oleksandr Taranenko, Ukraine's ambassador to the Cuban Republic, and Cuban ambassador to Ukraine Sergio Lopez Brel: Both of them had to work hard for this. With enthusiasm.

Incidentally, today [17 November], with the participation of members of the intergovernmental commission and of the Cuban Embassy in Ukraine, two joint Ukrainian-Cuban enterprises have been opened — clinics that will treat patients for skin and other diseases.

National Affairs

Experts Discuss Opposing Versions of Citizenship Treaty

LD2111231095 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1915 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev — Expert teams of Ukraine and Russia have discussed two opposing versions of a bilateral treaty on citizenship, Yuriy Serheyev, head of the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Information Directorate, told correspondents today. The teams met last week in Moscow.

While the Ukrainian draft focuses on the avoidance of dual citizenship in the future and elimination of existing cases, the Russian side proposes a treaty on citizenship regulation.

According to the Ukrainian diplomat, the two sides have approached the talks from different positions. The Ukrainian draft is based on the universally recognized doctrine of international law, according to which Ukraine, like most countries of the world, will maintain a single nationality, he said. The Russian draft is based on the concept of dual citizenship.

Serheyev stressed that Ukraine regards the problem of citizenship within the context of Ukrainian-Russian relations as an artificial obstacle to a full-scale political treaty.

Supreme Council, Cabinet Agree on Cooperation

LD2111161395 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1225 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, November 21 (Interfax-Ukraine) — In the course of the joint meeting of the Pre-

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sidiums of Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada [Supreme Council] and the Cabinet of Ministers, agreement was reached on the "ways and procedure of cooperation" between the Government and the Parliament, newsmen were told by Ukrainian Prime Minister Yevheniy Marchuk at a joint news-conference with Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksandr Moroz.

O. Moroz said, in particular, that agreement had been reached on the priorities in examination at the current parliamentary session of around 40 economic bills.

In this connection, E. Marchuk stressed that "legal insurance of the governmental program is of great significance for the Government".

He also said that one of the Deputy Cabinet Ministers is to supervise the drafting of legal acts jointly with Verkhovna Rada committees and the Parliament Secretariat. Ye. Marchuk noted that the corresponding offices will be introduced also at ministries.

According to O. Moroz, joint meetings of the Cabinet and Verkhovna Rada Presidiums "have good prospects". On his part, E.Marchuk noted that "the initiated tradition is a good sign". "Cooperation holds more promise than confrontation", the Premier underscored.

Shmarov: 'No Drastic Changes' in Military Doctrine

AU2111101495 Ivano-Frankivsk HALYCHYNA in Ukrainian 11 Nov 95 pp 1, 2

[Report by Bohdan Vivchar: "There Are Many Problems in the Army. Like in Society"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The army has always been one of the cornerstones of any state. This is not only confirmed by the history of the formation of the world's independent countries, but also by our own tragic history. It was precisely because the statesmen at the beginning of the century ignored this truth and disbanded the Ukrainian Army that our rebirth in the 1920s failed.

In the fourth year of our independence, the Ukrainian Army is going through a difficult stage of becoming established. Having inherited from the Soviet Union a huge military force of over 2 million troops and spending, at that time, up to 50 billion rubles to maintain it, we are now encountering great difficulties as we try to keep a 450-thousand strong army. We lack not only material equipment and ammunition, but also a national spirit.

The very problem of the army, the need to improve its combat readiness and establish interaction between local authorities and the command of military units took Defense Minister Valeriy Shmarov to Transcarpathia. Yesterday (10 November), he was welcomed at the Ivano-Frankivsk Airport by Stepan Volkovetskyy, head of the Oblast State Administration; Colonel General Petro Shulyak, commander of the Ciscarpathian Military District; Lieutenant General Anatoliy Kalashnykov, commander of the military formation; and others.

In the aviation unit that the minister immediately visited he was briefed on the problems of military pilots. Unit commander Colonel Yuriy Baydak told Valeriy Shmarov about the structure of the unit, its armaments, and combat training. Owing to a shortage of fuel, there are difficulties in training pilots; quite a number of officers and junior officers have no housing and there is even a shortage of uniforms.

The army is undergoing restructuring, the system of training is being changed, and statutes are being drafted and tested in subunits, Shmarov said in answer to journalists' questions. On the military doctrine, the minister stressed this: There will be no drastic changes, because the doctrine reflects the policy of the state, and Ukraine's political course is unchanged. It only needs to be polished somewhat.

Nor will there be any restructuring in military districts in the near future. Such changes require scientific substantiation and experimental testing. The system of military districts was introduced in Russia back in the times of Czar Nicholas I. On the one hand, these are well tested and, on the other hand, a system of administration that is too cumbersome for such a state as Ukraine. We are working on making the districts smaller and more efficient.

The minister also visited other military units and enterprises of the military-industrial complex and had a meeting at the Ivano-Frankivsk Executive Committee.

Official on Signing Chemical Weapons Accord

LD2011180895 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1500 GMT 20 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev — Ukraine does not presently have any chemical or biological weapons, although it has an insignificant amount of relevant substances for laboratory research. This was stated at a briefing today by General Viktor Lytvak, head of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry's main department for radiation, chemical, and biological protection.

According to Lytvak, the fact that Ukraine has not yet ratified the convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons has been caused by problems affecting the chemical industry.

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Viktor Lytvak considers that Ukraine might ratify the convention next year.

So far, 26 countries have ratified the convention on banning chemical weapons.

Orthodox Church Branches Willing To Unite

AU2211075095 Kiev MOLOD UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 16 Nov 95 p 1

[Report by Lyudmyla Shevchuk published under the rubric "An Unexpected Step"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church held a congress in Kiev, in the Mykola Naberezhnyy Church, whose senior priest Father Stefan Yaremchuk had left the jurisdiction of the Kiev Patriarchate, following the recent council of the Kiev Patriarchate Ukrainian Orthodox Church, and joined the Autocephalic Church. Seven archbishops (the eighth — Vasyliy Bodnarchuk, archbishop of Ternopil and Buchach — did not arrive because of illness).

The council focused on two issues. One of them — church administration in conditions of a united church. However, as is known, four bishops of the Kiev Patriarchate Ukrainian Church recently announced their joining the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church. Bishop of Khmelnytskyy and Kamyanets-Podilskyy Mefodiy (Kudryakov) was elected as secretary; until recently, he had been manager of affairs of the Kiev Patriarchate. He was also elected as chairman of the commission in charge of preparations for the Ukrainian Autocephalic Church local council planned for the beginning of 1996. There Dymytriy, Patriarch of Kiev and all Ukraine, will resign, as he himself stated in October.

The second extremely important issue discussed at the council concerned ways of uniting two branches of Ukrainian Orthodoxy — the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, which is under the jurisdiction of the Moscow Patriarchate. During the meeting of the bishops — Andriy, metropolitan of Galicia and head of the Ivano-Frankivsk eparchy, Bishop Mefodiy, and Bishop Petro (Petrus) — they held negotiations with Volodymyr (Sabodan), Ukrainian Orthodox Church metropolitan of Kiev and all Ukraine. The dialogue culminated in an accord on the creation of conciliatory commissions of both sides for talks on uniting these churches in a single Local Church of Ukraine. It is stipulated that the commission must be comprised of three persons — a bishop, a clergyman, and a layman. It has already been decided that, on the side of the Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church, it will be headed by Galician Metropolitan Andriy.

Economic Issues

Parliament Passes Law on Industrial, Financial Groups

LD2111204395 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1550 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev — On 21 November the Supreme Council of Ukraine passed in the third reading as a whole the law of Ukraine: On industrial and financial groups [IFG] in Ukraine [227 votes for, 26 against out of 310 peoples' deputies]. The law comes into force on the day of its publication.

In accordance with the changes, introduced during the third reading, a parent company loses its entitlement to a favorable taxation regime [if it was entitled to it] upon entering an IFG. On the whole an IFG and a parent company are established and act in accordance with the current legislation of Ukraine, including the antimonopoly legislation. Interim and final output of IFGs are liable for taxation in accordance with the current legislation.

State programs, which will be developed with IFGs in mind, will be confirmed exclusively by the Supreme Council of Ukraine. The words on possible confirmation of such programs by edicts of the president of Ukraine have been removed from the text of the law.

The article on possible financial assistance for parent companies participating in IFGs has been removed from the text of the law.

Appeal Explains Gas Supply Situation, Urges Payment

AU2111175195 Lvov ZA VILNU UKRAYINU in Ukrainian 14 Nov 95 p 3

["Appeal by the Administration of the 'Lvivtranshaz' to the Population and to Heads of Enterprises, Collective Farms, Institutions, and Organizations"; no date given]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Esteemed fellow citizens,

The collective of the "Lvivtranshaz" [Lvov Gas Transportation] enterprise has done everything to properly prepare its operations during the fall and winter period. We have done everything to ensure that the population, enterprises, and organizations would not encounter any problems with fuel, so that the "blue torch" would not die down in any boiler house. Major repairs and maintenance work have been carried out on the gas pipelines and gas distributing and compressor stations.

We have started extracting gas from the Letnyanske gas field, and this has made it possible to almost double our own gas extraction in Lvov Oblast.

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Necessary gas reserves for the needs of Lvov Oblast and the entire western region have been created in subsurface storage facilities.

However, from the first days of this early winter, we have been getting complaints from the population about the low pressure and shortage of gas supplied to homes. This is not our fault. This is mainly the fault of those consumers who do not pay for gas.

During the winter period, gas is supplied to the western region, including Lvov Oblast, exclusively from our own reserves and from subsurface storage facilities. However, possibilities of these resources are not boundless. Gas stored underground belongs mainly to commercial organizations and to the Russian joint-stock company "Gazprom" [Gas Industry]. In other words, we will only be allowed to supply this gas to consumers after it is paid for. Besides, these resources need to be divided for all the 150-160 days of the fall and winter period. However, what thrifty attitude can one talk about when, for example, consumers in Lvov Oblast burn between 3.5 and 4 million cubic meters of gas daily more than planned (our own extraction is just 2.2 million cubic meters a day)?

Lvov Oblast now consumes more gas daily than the whole of Poland and much more than Hungary, Slovakia, or the Czech Republic. It is natural that gas reserves in the pipelines become depleted and gas pressure in consumers' homes decreases. However, we cannot increase the gas supply, primarily due to chronic nonpayment for gas on the part of the population and budget organizations, power engineering enterprises, and collective farms.

In October 1996, payment was made for just 2 percent of the gas consumed in Ukraine. From early November, the indebtedness for gas has sharply increased, and this has created a threat that gas supplies to Ukraine may be halted. The present debt for gas in the oblast is 17,139 billion karbovantsi. Hundreds of enterprises and institutions consume gas free of charge, and a great part of the population also forgets or cannot pay for gas, and compensation for the difference in gas prices for the population or subsidies from the budget are not received. We are compelled to name those enterprises whose indebtedness for gas affects those consumers who pay for its consumption. [passage omitted]

Report on Trend Toward Depositing Money in Banks

AU2011214395 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 16 Nov 95 p 1

[Unattributed report: "'Dirty Money' Is Returning to Banks. For How Long — This Depends Upon the Economic Policy"]

[FBIS Translated Text] For the first time in quite a long period, the Ukrainian Bank could state that, in October, 750.5 billion karbovantsi [K] more than the sum of the issued money was deposited in banks. Even though another K210.904 trillion is still in circulation outside banks, one can see a distinct trend toward the return of "dirty money." For example, whereas in June, 15 percent of money (K27.7 trillion) failed to return to the banks and 13 percent (K24 trillion) in July, in August and September, the respective figures were 3.8 percent (K7.8 trillion) and 1.3 percent (K2.8 trillion). In October, for the first time, we had a positive figure. It is particularly pleasant to speak about this, in view of the fact that, until recently, a situation when one-fourth of the funds remained outside the bank circulation had been "normal" for our economy; this money did not serve the budgetary-financial system. Moreover, the aforementioned K210 trillion may, at any time, get out of control and send up the price of any commodity. The only salvation from this threat is to seek the return of as much money as possible to banks. It is clear, however, that this cannot be done by force and it only remains to try and contain inflation and stabilize the monetary system. This will promote the strengthening of the value of money and will create incentives for the so-called long-term crediting.

Will the aforementioned trend last? Viktor Yushchenko, head of the National Bank, believes that this will depend upon the budgetary and monetary policy. Consequently, the question remains open.

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Belarus

Lukashenka: West Must Not Disrespect East

AU2111195195 Duesseldorf HANDELSBLATT in German 21 Nov 95 p 10

[Report on interview with President Alyaksandr Lukashenka by "mzi" in Minsk on 20 November: "Lukashenka Warns West Against Disrespecting the East"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka has discarded fears that Belarus would join Russia. In an interview with HANDELSBLATT, Lukashenka said "as long as I am president the two countries will not unify." Annexation with Russia was as real for the Republic of Belarus, which is what the country is officially called, as annexation with Germany, he said. A union between the two countries was "neither necessary nor of advantage" for Russia, either. Lukashenka, who is seen as having friendly feelings toward Moscow, has a reputation of seeking political unity between the Slavic neighbors.

The president emphasized, however, that relations between Belarus and Russia are of course "more profound and warmer" than those with other countries. Apart from the shared history, one must not forget that no less than 2.5 of a total of 10 million inhabitants of Belarus are Russians. This is why relations will be further extended and developed wherever this is beneficial. It mainly applies to economic cooperation.

IMF and World Bank Criticized

Prospects for monetary union with Russia, a plan that still existed one and one-half years ago, have disappeared. One was now seeking to establish a payments union, similar to the EU, Lukashenka said.

Yet, the president warned that the West's attitude in particular, could let the countries in the East move closer together. The closeness of his country to Russia is, for example, also the result of the West closing its market to Belarusian products. Some of the richest western countries did not understand the problems of the region and were not offering any help, thus forcing the East to set up another "joint economic complex." This was in a way also true regarding the fear of a new superpower in the East.

Disbandment of NATO Instead of Expansion

"The day could come," Lukashenka said, "when the politicians in the East would resume the ruptured relations." With a view to the West he warned: "The longer the governments remain in the role of spectators, the faster the process of such reunification can proceed."

While Lukashenka expressly excluded Germany from his criticism, he criticized the international financial institutions: Their policy was aiming at ruining the national economies in Belarus, Ukraine, and even Russia. If this policy continues then the governments in the East must set up again the very thing the West is so afraid of. "So, our fate is in your hands," Lukashenka said.

He made equally critical statements regarding the possible eastward expansion of NATO. "I am asking myself whether it is objectively necessary for NATO to expand." Such a step would only produce tensions. Both military blocs should have been disbanded simultaneously; while the Warsaw Pact is almost completely destroyed, the West has done nothing to disband NATO, Lukashenka emphasized. Instead, NATO is now trying to expand at the cost of former Warsaw Pact states. "That is not fair," 41-year-old Lukashenka said, "because if we started this process together, we should also conclude it together."

For Belarus, which is going through a sustained and profound economic crisis, Lukashenka predicted a decrease of the GDP of less than 10 percent for the current year. German economic research institutes, however, reported a minus of 12 percent for the first seven months of the year.

The downward trend was primarily related to the loss of markets for Belarusian products, the president said. While potential clients in the East were currently unable to pay for Belarusian products, the West was protecting its market against competitors. "Economic decline, therefore, does not only depend on us," Lukashenka said. He does not share the view that within the framework of the customs union with Russia, Minsk almost completely took over customs rates from Moscow. Moscow also accepted Belarusian conditions.

The president, who is directly in control of privatization, concedes that only some 10 percent of state property has been transformed. He defends the slow pace: "I cannot carry out privatization at the cost of my people." Therefore, parts of the revenues from privatization go to the social sector.

Lukashenka promotes Belarus as a "kind of island in the post-Soviet area" with a well-developed economy with modern equipment. Here one can work quietly and organize economic expansion toward the east as far as Japan, Korea, and China. "We have a strong power and, if necessary, also an excellent Army that permits us to protect the interests of investors," Lukashenka said.

There was no problem for foreigners to buy land. Only farming land cannot be sold, but only leased for 99 years. He proposed to meet German business people

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first in Belarus and later at the Hannover Fair, where the country will present itself during the Days of the Belarusian Economy.

By-Elections Necessary Due to Low Turnout

Moreover, regarding imports of products that are particularly important for Belarus, such as from Germany, it is possible to find solutions regarding customs duties "very quickly" in talks with Moscow.

Asked about the ongoing conflicts between the president and parliament, Alyaksandr Lukashenka pointed to the situation in the United States. Disputes existed even there, the president said. The low turnout of the Belarusian population in the first two elections to the new parliament must be seen in connection with the fact that the deputies discredited the parliament. "People simply no longer believe in the honesty of the parliament."

He was sharply criticized for his attitude toward the deputies, but these were complicated and difficult times, he said. That his popularity has decreased must be seen in connection with the reforms and the monetarist policy. "The people want improvement tomorrow, but the economy does not permit that yet, which is why we need patience," Lukashenka said. He said that the criticism he voiced in late 1991 regarding the end of the Soviet Union must be seen in connection with the uncivilized process of disintegration. Lukashenka said that what was worthy of being preserved of the achievements of the Soviet Union are "stability, peacefulness, the belief that in the next day things will not be worse than they are today, and that the working people are able to maintain a good life."

Lukashenka: Minsk Cannot 'Betray' Russia for Money

LD2111223695 Moscow NTV in Russian 1900 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Over 400 heads assembled at the first republican meeting of executive power, or so-called presidential vertical power, in Minsk. The sight of such a large number of state bureaucrats is not a sight for those of a nervous disposition.

Neither for those of a nervous disposition was the three-hour-long address by the president today, before which participants in the event were literally given portfolios and were acquainted with the general state of affairs in the economy.

The president touched upon, perhaps, all aspects of the life of society and dealt in particular upon the West's desire to disarm Belarus and to tear it way from Russia. [Begin Lukashenka recording] We cannot behave in our policy in a way that would harm our good relations with the Russian people! We cannot betray the friendship with this great people, be it for a billion or a trillion dollars. We cannot destroy our army. [end recording]

Alyaksandr Lukashenka called upon the republic's executive power to study state affairs in a real way and cited some unexpected impressions of his recent trip to the United States.

[Begin Lukashenka recording] I don't mean that I understand everything there, but I probably grasp some things. I saw how [words indistinct], democracy in the state works, our own Soviet system which is dear to us. [end recording]

The president promised to reveal facts of the destructive actions of the former head of the National Bank and warned that managers would bear personal responsibility for delay in payment of wages and that workers promoted by labor collectives to administrative posts would once again be put forward as KGB cadres. The assembly of the republic's presidential vertical power was in fact a review of forces on the eve of the parliamentary elections and the herald of possible subsequent government reshuffles. This is Aleksandr Stupnikov and Konstantin Morozov in Minsk for NTV.

Lukashenka Accuses Constitutional Court of 'Intrigues'

WS2211091595 Minsk BELAPAN in English 0813 GMT 22 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Speaking at the Republican conference of the President's "vertical" Alyaksandr Lukashenka accused the Constitutional Court of "political intrigues." "Keeping its balance between the law and politics the Constitutional Court, unfortunately, has an inclination to the latter," the Head of the State declared. According to him, as a result of this, instead of an independent legal organ to secure stable equilibrium between the executive and legislative powers, society has an organisation which is guided by "formal political reasons," not by the interests of the people and the necessity to secure stability. The activities of the Constitutional Court, especially in recent weeks, the President said, has complicated the preelection situation in the Republic of Belarus. In view of the Court's judgments the President expressed concern that "destructive extreme forces which are not supported by the majority of the people may break through into Parliament." The President made it clear that "an MP will have the right to solve problems on behalf of the people, if the election is conducted under equal conditions, i.e. if over half of the people take part in it." "We have no alternative,"

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the President said and added: "This is my order to you, whatever attitude other authorities have towards this."

Russian Strategic Missile Troops Guarding Topol Base

LD2111174695 St. Petersburg Fifth Channel Television Network in Russian 1630 GMT 19 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In the 1920s, the state frontier which was guarded by a cavalry unit passed through this dense forest near Mozyr in Belarus. There is barbed wire and an observance and surveillance zone here today, too, but it is guarding the territory on which the Topol strategic missile system — which NATO calls the SS-25 — is based. This Order of Bogdan-Khmelnitskiy Vladimir-Volyn Guards' regiment is on foreign soil today — in Belarus. However, the striking power of the weapon is the same.

[Unidentified man, in uniform] It can destroy any enemy on any point of the earth. Its effectiveness and reliability is 100 percent.

[Unidentified Correspondent] Lieutenant Colonel Vyacheslav Desenko, commander of the regiment, says that his unit is preparing to leave for Russia next year. The regiment is the last unit in the south of Belarus which is to be withdrawn under the START II Treaty. Nevertheless, the regiment maintains order, discipline, and combat readiness at the usual level.

[Desenko] There was honor, conscience, and the fatherland, and they are still there for us. They are not simply slogans for us.

[Correspondent] Lt. Col. Desenko thinks that moral is especially important for missile troops. With the abolition of political workers in the Army, his unit began to carry out psychological work of quite a different kind with soldiers.

[Desenko] I think that if a person wants to go to church, believes in God, that must be encouraged. In my turn, practically every week and at weekends I send soldiers to church if they want to go — only if they want to.

[Correspondent] The regiment also has its own farm which provides practically all the food — from vegetables to fish — for the rank and file and the officers. The duty shift on a three- or four-day watch lives and eats beside its launch system, right in these combat support vehicles. The striking power of this regiment alone, which can be unleashed in two minutes, is enough for the whole of western Europe. And with missile troops being congratulated from all quarters today, military unit number 42691 is performing its duty in Belarusian forests.

[Desenko] I think, as they said during the revolution, that gunpowder should be kept dry.

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Kazakhstan

Qazhygeldin Tells UK Meeting Inflation Curbed

LD2111111295 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0844 GMT 21 Nov 95

[By Andrey Urban]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] London, November 21 (ITAR-TASS) — "The government of Kazakhstan was able to curb the inflation in the republic," Itar-Tass was told here by Kazakh Premier Akezhan Qazhygeldin, who is currently paying an official visit to the United Kingdom. The premier addressed a conference "Kazakhstan: Its Present and Future", which opened at the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development on Monday.

According to the Kazakh prime minister, inflation in the republic equalled to three thousand per cent in 1993, 1,250 per cent — in 1994, while now its growth should not exceed 56 per cent. "Four years ago Kazakhstan, like the other republics of the former USSR, began to reform its economy and public life, seeing that the previous socialist system had lost the economic competition," he noted. "In 1993 Kazakhstan obtained the main instrument of economic management — the national currency, which has earned a good reputation among international financial institutions."

"Starting from mid-1994 Kazakhstan went over to a 15-month programme, which laid the beginning for its economic reforms, intended to restructure the republic's enterprises and to create new market institutions, draw up second-generation legislations so badly needed by the republic," the Kazakh premier stated. "The government had to embark upon the road of a rather tough anti-inflation policy and to resort to such an unpopular measures as the liberalisation of prices," he added. "Nevertheless, we were able to liberalise our economy to a considerable extent by giving the republic access to external markets and by creating free financial markets within the country."

Nazarbayev Begins Talks With Tajikistan's Rakhmanov

LD2211105295 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0631 GMT 22 Nov 95

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Kulagin]

[FBIS Translated Text] Almaty, 22 Nov — The short working visit to Kazakhstan by Emomali Rakhmanov, the president of Tajikistan, has started with talks with Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev. The Tajik president arrived this morning. It is expected that the talks will result in the signing of an agreement on economic cooperation between the two countries.

Talks on an intergovernmental level and the signing of agreements on free trade and on the conditions for reorganizing Tajikistan's debt obligations to Kazakhstan are also scheduled for today.

Trial of Cossack Hetman Gunkin Viewed

MM2211112195 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Nov 95 p 2

[Report by Yevgeniya Dotsuk: "Strange Trial — Strange Verdict"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Almaty — The trial of Nikolay Gunkin, a hetman of the Semirechensk Cossack host, ended in Almaty yesterday. Let us recall that Gunkin was charged under article 183 of the Kazakhstan criminal code of organizing and holding an unauthorized march and meeting at Christmas, 8 January 1995. But the Cossacks claim that on 8 January what took place outside the Voznesenskiy cathedral was only a traditional festive prayer meeting after which they all left for the Kazanskaya church to continue the celebration.

Actually even the witnesses for the prosecution — policemen — confirmed that on 8 January Gunkin and the Cossacks behaved peacefully and only prayed outside the Voznesenskiy cathedral while outside the Kazanskiy cathedral young Cossacks took the oath. The policemen monitoring the events, according to their own testimony, even congratulated the Cossacks on the orthodox holiday. But what happened outside the Kazan church was nonetheless described by them as a meeting.

Gunkin's defender, the young lawyer Andrey Derkunskiy, argued in court that a prayer meeting cannot be considered a meeting — special permission is not required to hold a prayer meeting.

The trial constantly came to a standstill over definitions. For instance, what can be considered a meeting? Lieutenant Colonel Bektasov, a witness for the prosecution, incidentally, understands by meeting "when one person speaks and the others listen." In court they argued over whether the Cossacks have the right to walk round the city in uniform.

The hetman's conflict with the authorities is not the first. He has been in prison twice for five days for an unauthorized meeting outside Nikolskaya church in 1994 under the slogan "Kazakhstan should be part of Russia" and for a Taldy-Kurgan Cossack demonstration. But the 8 January events are very hard to categorize as a violation of legality.

The day before the verdict Lawyer Derkunskiy stated that although the prosecution does not stand up to the defense's arguments Gunkin would nonetheless most

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likely be found guilty — to deprive him of the right to take part in political activity as someone with a conviction.

The court was in a very difficult position. The case acquired a scandalous political coloring, and the attention of the press and observers of international rights protection organizations was riveted on it. To vindicate Gunkin would mean jeopardizing the unprofessional actions of the authorities' organs, which had crudely provoked the scandal. On the other hand it was hard to prove Gunkin's guilt without stretching a point.

This history also displayed one more nuance — the accusation against the Russian press, which is allegedly heating passions around the scandal, "fulfilling someone's order." This idea, incautiously voiced by President Nazarbayev, has been taken up by the local newspapers and the state television channel in an attempt to turn Russian journalists almost into provocateurs. The particularly zealous even put the question like this: What is more important for Kazakhstan — stability or pluralism? The journalists working in Kazakhstan for Russian newspapers and television sent a letter to Nazarbayev expressing their professional and civic concern in connection with the campaign which has been launched against the Russian mass media.

Kyrgyzstan

Akayev on Economic, Political Affairs, CIS

MM2211115695 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Nov 95 p 5

[Interview with Askar Akayev, president of Kyrgyzstan, by Yadviga Yuferova in Bishkek; date not given: "Askar Akayev: A President Should Provide Jobs, Not Charity"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Yuferova] Askar Akayevich, the election of the second president in the history of Kyrgyzstan will take place 24 December. Why did you not take the step of a referendum on extending your powers until the third millennium, like your neighbors Nazarbayev and Karimov? After all, more than a million signatures were collected "in favor" of a referendum.

[Akayev] Solidarity with our neighbors came into play in Kyrgyzstan: Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan have decided to extend the president's powers to the year 2001.

The "referendum or elections" situation was resolved by parliament: Nearly all the deputies voted for elections. And I respect their decision.

[Yuferova] Kyrgyzstan, in the eyes of the world community, has kept the reputation of an "island of democracy in Central Asia," but has, no doubt, caused irritation among influential neighbors in the Asian region with its "special path of development."

[Akayev] I hope not. The Kyrgyz have their own special traditions. This year we celebrated widely the 1,000th anniversary of the epic "Manas." Incidentally, Manas was an elected, not a hereditary, khan. In those days of military democracy, military leaders were elected too....

[Yuferova] You have decided to put forward your candidacy for a second term. That is not an easy decision.

[Akayev] No matter who becomes president now (unless, perhaps, it is the former first secretary of the Central Committee), the country's democratic course will not change. That is the most important thing I have been able to do. But it is quite probable that there will be a slowing down of the course of reforms, which I would like to pursue most vigorously to their conclusion.

[Yuferova] Someone observed that the president of the Academy of Sciences has only just learned to be president of the state, and it's already time for elections again.

[Akayev] Undoubtedly, experience gives you wings up to a certain point, but in time it can fetter you too.

[Yuferova] Who else has declared their intention of being candidates for the presidency?

[Akayev] Five people so far, but obviously the number of contenders will go up. The youngest contender is 37-year-old physics teacher O. Tekebayev, a member of parliament. The oldest is 62-year-old A. Masaliyev, former party leader of Kyrgyzstan. There is a movie director who would like to play the role of president, like Reagan. One candidate is ex-speaker M. Sherimkulov, a serious and experienced politician.

[Yuferova] In the newspaper SLOVO KYRGYZSTANA, which is regarded as the official newspaper in the state, I came across the following view: "A frenzied desire for the president's job is prompting certain politicians to organize mass disturbances and possibly a coup d'etat." Is this a reality, an attempt to please you personally, or a provocation?

[Akayev] I hope the presidential elections will take place within the framework of the law. And as the present guarantor of the Constitution I will try to ensure precisely that course. From here in Kyrgyzstan, it is all too easy to see what happens to a country if politicians promise blood, encouraging people's lowest, rather than highest, instincts.

[Yuferova] The logic of the election contest is such that all the contenders will base their programs on

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devastating criticism of Akayev's five-year rule. Excuse a personal question, but do you feel you still have the health and strength for such an exhausting psychological contest?

[Akayev] I haven't given the press a report on my state of health, only an income declaration, so far. I try to maintain the athletic figure of a 50-year-old man by going jogging for many kilometers in the morning. Although, of course, that is not the main point. A person cannot die every day from critical articles. Our free press writes whatever it likes, and I have become a hardened reader.

[Yuferova] And what about the lawsuit against the newspaper RESPUBLIKA and its chief editor, which aroused protests among rights campaigners?

[Akayev] That's not all. The same newspaper published a statement by the LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] faction of Zhirinovskiy, who offers advice on how the Kyrgyz should live and observe human rights.

Now, about rights. I went to the south of the republic to open a school in a village that was rehoused after a landslide. The village elder came up to me and gave me a piece of his mind: "I thought you were an honest man, son, but you have a villa in Switzerland, a house in Turkey, and millions of dollars in accounts abroad. It was in the newspaper." That village elder was not the only person who believed the lies. I have no property except for a four-room apartment which I got when I worked as a faculty chief. I was forced, like an ordinary citizen, to file a case for slander with the rayon court. Everyone knows the outcome: The court stripped the authors of the right to engage in professional activity for 18 months.

[Yuferova] A year ago you and I were talking in the pages of IZVESTIYA about how ideas and papers had gotten bogged down in Moscow's corridors of power in connection with the creation of joint enterprises and financial and industrial groups which could halt the exodus of the Russian-speaking population from Kyrgyzstan, which is nearly 1 million strong.

[Akayev] After the breakup of the Union we found ourselves in extraordinary circumstances. Many defense enterprises, producing deep-water torpedoes and space technology, not to mention machine guns, powder, and cartridges, were left standing.

A Russian Government delegation was here recently, headed by Vice Premier Aleksey Bolshakov. We agreed on many fundamental matters, including the handover to Russia of state ownership rights in a number of Kyrgyz enterprises, which will reduce part of our debt. More precisely, related plants will be linked and joint enterprises will be set up.

[Yuferova] Askar Akayevich, unemployment, counting hidden unemployment, has reached a catastrophic figure in the republic — 300,000, that is nearly 20 percent of the working population.

[Akayev] Hence our many social problems, including the growth of crime. We spend more than 50 percent of the budget on social needs. But a president should provide jobs, not an allowance or charity — that is my main task.

Nonetheless, we have gotten better at trading: In the past two years for the first time the foreign trade balance was positive. The republic trades with 44 countries and exports wool, cotton, leather, and antimony.

[Yuferova] Arkadiy Volskiy, president of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, has just brought about 100 prominent businessmen from Russia, the CIS, and Eastern Europe to Kyrgyzstan.

[Akayev] The union was holding its regular congress, for which Bishkek was chosen. I think it was not only a matter of chance, but a recognition and appreciation of the fact that preferential conditions have been created for entrepreneurs in Kyrgyzstan, while our som is the most stable monetary unit in the CIS countries.

[Yuferova] There is a view that the Kyrgyz, a son of the mountains and the steppes, cannot be broken in to the production line and the machine tool. The working class in the republic was, in the main, Russian-speaking.

[Akayev] There was also a universal misconception that you could not make an entrepreneur out of a Kyrgyz. For us, it was shameful to go to the bazaar and bargain. We learned. Life made us do it. Now the republic has been allocated major credits for 10 important projects, in particular the modernization of "Manas" Airport and the reconstruction of the Bishkek-Osh highway. Approximately 100,000 jobs will be created.

[Yuferova] It has only just become known that the meeting of CIS leaders has been postponed again. The impression is that these events are purely a matter of ritual, of protocol.

[Akayev] There are grounds for disappointment. We have adopted more than 500 joint documents, but only one or two of them are operating. Nonetheless, I am optimistic. From the very first day the heads of state talked about an interstate economic union, but at the same time set up border barriers and created customs services. Now the situation has changed. Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan are joining the customs

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agreement within the framework of the accord on an economic and payments union between Russia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan. Thus, six CIS countries are already ensuring free and unhindered movement for their citizens and goods. Some spheres of cooperation, such as border protection, are even more successful.

[Yuferova] Askar Akayevich, which state claims the role of leader in Central Asia?

[Akayev] All of them, except us. The Kyrgyz have always played the role of a balancing force.

[Yuferova] Which of the presidents do you talk with on the telephone most frequently?

[Akayev] Nazarbayev and Karimov, our closest neighbors.

Certain state problems have a regional and national character. You know, there is not only the "Russian soul," there is also such a concept as the "Turkic soul."

[Yuferova] During the celebrations of the 1,000th anniversary of the epic "Manas" the third meeting of six heads of state of Turkic-speaking countries took place. I have heard that prior to meetings of CIS leaders some of them hold consultations at the Istanbul "Central Committee."

[Yuferova] That report is not to be taken seriously — Demirel is a very correct and tactful politician and there can be no question of any such pressure. It is another matter that we have pressing regional problems. For instance, the exploitation of our natural resources and their delivery to world markets....

[Yuferova] But Kyrgyzstan has no oil or gas.

[Akayev] It has gold and other things. In the next few years we will go from extracting one tonne to 20 tonnes a year. Today the gold reserve, which ensures the stability of our som, totals five tonnes.

[Yuferova] Kyrgyzstan, together with Ukraine and Uzbekistan, took part in exercises within the framework of the NATO "Partnership for Peace" program. It seems many people could echo the British saying that the country has no permanent friends, but it has permanent interests.

[Akayev] We have both friends and interests. And I am sure that in the 21st century Russia will remain Kyrgyzstan's main partner.

As someone who lived in Leningrad for 17 years and became a doctor of sciences there, I value highly Russia's intention to remain the educational center of the CIS. What else, if it wants to consolidate its influence? Suppose we are succeeded by a generation of politicians educated in the United States and Turkey. They will naturally propose a different model of partnership and priorities. Alas, today it is cheaper for us to send schoolchildren and students to the United States to study than to Russia. Although I regard the Russian education system as one of the best in the world.... Incidentally, I was pleased to read in IZVESTIYA recently an article by the American professor Soyfer [name as transliterated], who thinks the same. True, while my colleague was living and working in Moscow he criticized that system severely. Now he has something to compare it with.

[Yuferova] Askar Akayevich, what do journalists criticize you for most often?

[Akayev] Many things. For instance, they used to ask — and now they say it as a criticism — why I do not have a permanent presidential team of like-minded people, irrespective of regions. But in the East, not to take account of the traditions of clans and local elites is suicidal to state stability and accord. Therefore I must always work with a coalition team.

[Yuferova] Askar Akayevich, I have heard about an artistic soiree with the well-known poet of the East, the Tajik Gulrukhsor Safiyeva. You delivered a major speech, in rivalry with Chingiz Aytmatov. At that soiree, these lines were heard:

"There are presidents who kill.

"There are presidents who smile.

"Life chooses the latter."

[Akayev] Yes, we presented Gulrukhsor's book "The Birthday of Pain." It is time both politicians and poets wrote a different book that could be called, with a happy heart, "The Birthday of Joy."

Shall I tell you a parable to remember?

[[Yuferova] Yes, of course.

[Akayev] In ancient times there lived a wise man who never lied. Some young people conspired to catch him out in a lie. They decided to conceal a little bird in the palm of the hand and ask the wise man — what do we have in our hands, a live bird, or a dead one? If he said "live," they would surreptitiously squash it; if he said "dead," they would release it alive, and mock the wise man to their heart's content. When the young people went up to him and asked the question, the wise man replied: "Everything is in your hands, young people."

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Tajikistan

UN Peace Commission Chief Urges New Round of Talks

LD2111203695 Tehran IRNA in English 2000 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Dushanbe, Nov 21 (IRNA) — The head of the UN Peace Observation Commission in Tajikistan warned that any delay in holding the fifth round of peace talks between government and the opposition could exacerbate conflicts in the south and east of this central Asian country.

Speaking to reporters here on Tuesday, Zafar Rahmanov added that if peace talks don't start in the immediate future, the situation would go out control and the conflicting groups will resort to force.

In the same interview, commander of UN peacekeeping forces in the country, Darko Silovic, said that both sides had broken a ceasefire signed in Tehran on numerous occasions last year, adding that these incidents were reported mainly in the regions near the Afghanistan border.

He hoped to see an end to the present conflict in the new round of peace talks which is to open in Turkmenistan' capital, Ashgabat, next month.

The representatives of government and opposition in the peace observation commission said in the interview that peace could be restored when the two sides maintained the attitude of forgiveness and showed their devotion towards achieving that end.

The conflicting sides in Tajikistan, however, have not yet agreed on the place and date of the fifth round of peace talks.

Rakhmanov, Russian, Turkmen Officials Discuss Tajik Talks

LD2111221795 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1957 GMT 21 Nov 95

[By Galina Gridneva]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] DUSHANBE, November 21 (Itar-Tass) — Tajik President Emomali Rakhmanov, Dmitry Ryurikov, the Russian president's envoy and adviser on international issues, and Turkmen Deputy Prime Minister Boris Shikhmuradov, who is also Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan, on Tuesday [21 November] discussed the preparation for the resumption of intra-Tajik talks.

The next round of intra-Tajik talks is due to be held in Ashgabat on November 30.

Press secretary of the Tajik president Zafar Saidov told Itar-Tass that during the half an hour conversation with Rakhmanov, Ryurikov handed over President Boris Yeltsin's message on prospects for Russian-Tajik relations and the possibilities of its strengthening.

The press secretary noted that during the meeting, Rakhmanov and Shikhmuradov discussed economic cooperation. The Turkmen side expressed readiness to facilitate the development of the intra-Tajik dialogue.

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Armenia

Border Positions Come Under Fire From Azerbaijan

NC2111215595 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 2100 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The Armenian Defense Ministry Press Service has reported that the Azerbaijani side again violated the northeastern border of Armenia on 20 November. Azerbaijani Armed Forces units shelled and fired upon the defensive positions of Dovegh and Barekamavan in Noyemberian from infantry fighting vehicles, mortars, and large-caliber machine guns between 1810 and 2130. There were no casualties. The enemy stopped firing when the Armenian border guards retaliated. No incidents took place elsewhere on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border last night or today. The cease-fire is being observed on the Karabakh fronts. This was reported by the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic Press and Information Department.

Yerevan Denies Talks Held Between Ter-Petrosyan, Aliyev

LD2111215195 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1448 GMT 21 Nov 95

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[FBIS Translated Text] Yerevan, 21 Nov — Today the Armenian Foreign Ministry denied the allegations circulated by the Turkish press to the effect that during his stay in New York Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan discussed the Karabakh problem with Azeri President Geydar Aliyev on Turkish President Suleyman Demirel's initiative. The Foreign Ministry clarified that such a meeting "had never been planned."

The statement also pointed out that during meetings between Levon Ter-Petrosyan and Suleyman Demirel "the issue of Lachin — the corridor through Azeri territory linking Armenia with Nagorno- Karabakh — was not discussed or even mentioned."

Azerbaijan

Aliyev, Israeli Ambassador Exchange Views on Election

NC2111220195 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Our people passed a great test in the parliamentary election and referendum. Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev stated this during his meeting tonight with Israeli Ambassador to Azerbaijan Eliezer Yotvat.

[Begin recording] [offscreen correspondent] Eliezer Yotvat conveyed the gratitude of the Israeli president and acting Prime Minister Shim'on Peres for Geydar Aliyev's cable of condolences over the assassination of Yitzhaq Rabin. He said that the participation of the Azerbaijani delegation headed by Prime Minister Fuad Guliyev at the funeral ceremony was highly regarded in Israel.

The Israeli ambassador congratulated our head of state and the Azerbaijani people on the adoption of the new Constitution of independent Azerbaijan and on the election of a democratic parliament.

Commenting on the position of the Israeli observers, Yotvat said there were some defects in the election and referendum and that it was the duty of the observers to note the shortcomings. They attributed the shortcomings to years of accepted norms and traditions and to the people's prolonged experience of an undemocratic environment. He said that despite all this, the important political event is seen as a positive step on the path of democracy.

Yotvat stressed the need to consolidate relations with all the developed countries, including Israel, to deepen democracy in Azerbaijan.

The Azerbaijani president spoke of the harm done to mankind by terrorism in the modern world and told the ambassador that this grave danger did not miss our people. He said terrorists are punished severely.

The head of state noted that the important thing is to maintain the policies of those who have become victims of terrorism, adding that he wholeheartedly believes that Shim'on Peres, who was a close associate of late Yitzhaq Rabin and who now fulfills his duties, will realize the objectives of the prime minister, a victim of terrorism, in continuing the peace process in the Middle East and developing cooperation with the various countries, including Azerbaijan.

Aliyev thanked the ambassador, who, as an observer at the parliamentary election and referendum, expressed his impressions on the election.

[Aliyev] All these things represent support for us and are extremely necessary and important in our work, particularly in our efforts to develop democracy. One clear thing that no one can deny is that the Azerbaijani Republic and its leadership lead the country, people, and the Republic along the path of democracy. That such serious decisions and measures were implemented in conditions of war, when 20 percent of the country is under occupation and there are over 1 million refugees living in tents, shows our confidence in ourselves.

[offscreen correspondent] The president noted that in these difficult circumstances, the road to democracy

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cannot be paved without faults. The important thing is to bring it to a successful conclusion. [end recording]

Chechen Sources Say Village Bombed by Russian Planes

NC2111193395 Baku TURAN in English 1258 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku/21.11.95/TURAN—Bombing of mountainous Chechen village Roshni-Chu took place at the instruction of the Commander of the armed air-forces of Russia, General-Colonel Deynekin. The attack by the Russian aviation was conducted by eight planes MiG-23 and SU-25 from the base of the armed air-forces located in Armenia, TURAN received this information from informed sources in Chechnya.

It is known that several "unknown" planes bombed the Chechen village Roshni-Chu in October this year, as a result 30 people died. Official Russian sources did not answer the question what planed conducted this attack. The Defense Ministry only said that those planes belonged to one the Caucasian countries.

That case is treated in Baku as very dangerous precedent. Next time the same "unknown" planes may conduct act of terrorism or a serious provocation not only against Chechnya.

Final Results of Referendum on Constitution Published

LD2111142295 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1027 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] BAKU, Nov 21 (Interfax) — Azerbaijan's Central Electoral Commission announced the final official results of the referendum on the constitution held on November 12 simultaneously with the parliamentary elections.

It reports that 3,556,277 voters (86%) took part in the referendum.

Support for the new constitution was given by 3,267,538 people (91.9%).

"Thus, the new constitution was adopted," says the Central Electoral Commission's press release.

The new constitution reads that Azerbaijan is a democratic, secular and unitary state, headed by a president. The president's powers have been considerably strengthened compared to the previous constitution. The territory of Azerbaijan which, according to the new constitution also includes the Azerbaijani sector of the Caspian Sea, is proclaimed as integral and indivisible.

The Azerbaijani language is the national language of Azerbaijan. In 1992, President Abulfaz Elchibey declared the Turkic language the national language of Azerbaijan.

The results of the referendum are to be endorsed by the newly- elected parliament during its first session.

Georgia

Shevardnadze Meets Russian Border Guard Service Director

LD2111223195 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1939 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] TBILISI, Nov 21 (Interfax) — Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze received Russian Federal Border Service Director Andrey Nikolayev in Tbilisi Tuesday to discuss issues concerning Russian border guards' deployment in the republic.

The Georgian presidential press office told Interfax that the tete-a-tete meeting focused on the state of the Georgian- Chechen border and the Russian border guards' role in Abkhazian and South Ossetian settlement.

According to Nikolayev, Georgian-Russian border cooperation is successfully developing and has prospects for the future.

At the same time, he drew Shevardnadze's attention to a number of problems experienced by Russian border guards. In particular, the meeting touched on financial issues and the supply of border posts and towns with electricity.

The Georgian president promised to settle all these problems in the near future.

Abkhaz Council Denounces Visiting Duma Deputy

LD2111192095 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1500 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The CONTACT news agency reports that the press service of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia has made a statement saying the following:

In order to poll votes and be elected deputy, and under the pretext of caring for the Russian people's destiny and protecting their human rights, Konstantin Zatulin, chairman of the State Duma Committee for CIS Affairs and Links with Compatriots, has arrived in the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia.

We have learned that he does not pamper Russia with attention. The true aim of his visit to Abkhazia is to wage an unremitting anti-Georgian propaganda and establish close and friendly contacts with the separatist leadership.

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While acting against the views of the world community and against the decisions by the United Nations and the heads of the CIS states, he is abusing the duties delegated to him and is continuing to wage strife. He supports Vladislav Ardzinba's groundless idea of Abkhazia's secession from Georgia, urging the already scanty people to a total elimination. With his thoughtless behavior he is urging the destabilization of Georgians and the Abkhaz people — who have lived together for centuries, have common traditions, and blood relations. Zatulin's words: I will not allow Abkhazia to join Georgia, are well-known.

Taking the above-mentioned into consideration, the press service of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia, considers Zatulin's activities in Georgia damaging for the country and hopes that the Russian State Duma will take measures that will in future rule out interference by irresponsible politicians in Georgia's internal affairs.

Motorized Infantry To Re-Acquire Air Defense Capability

MM2211091095 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Nov 95 p 1

[Report by Vitaliy Denisov under the "KRASNAYA ZVEZDA and News Agency Correspondents Report" rubric: "Every Brigade To Get Protection From the Sky"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Tbilisi — Immediately after the end of the CIS defense ministers meeting, which discussed the creation of a unified Commonwealth air defense system, the Republic of Georgia Defense Ministry decided to revive military air defense units.

Under an order of Lieutenant General Vardiko Nadibaidze, republic defense minister, antiaircraft and antimissile battalions are to be formed in all motorized infantry brigades. In the near future the question of arming and equipping the "guardians of the sky" will be discussed jointly with the Russian side.

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Estonia

U.S. Secretary Perry 'Cautious About Making Promises'

MM2211102895 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 22 Nov 95 p 7

[Report by Galina Sapozhnikova: "Secretary Perry Always Ready To Admit Balts to NATO"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Tallinn — U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry began his tour of East European countries, which have firmly set their sights on joining NATO, in Tallinn. Heaping a mass of compliments on the Estonian Republic's economic growth, he was nevertheless extremely cautious about making promises and put more emphasis on Estonia's participation in the Partnership for Peace program. He also evaded direct questions extremely diplomatically: When asked how the United States would react if, in the event of Estonia's joining NATO, Russia kept its promise to bring troops in immediately, Perry reassured his Estonian colleagues that these threats from the Russian Defense Ministry are not official and that in this case the United States would certainly state its firm position.

As regards Estonia, in Perry's opinion it meets most NATO entry conditions: regarding democratization, a market economy, control over the Army, and the conformity of military training to NATO standards. Perry was discreetly silent about the main condition — good relations with one's neighbors, which Estonia cannot boast of at the moment.

Minister Opposes Linking Agreements With Russia

LD2111201495 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1639 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] TALLINN, Nov 21 (Interfax) — Estonian Foreign Minister Siim Kallas on Tuesday spoke out against linking ratification of the Russian-Estonian military agreements with the signing of an agreement on the two countries' borders.

Presenting in parliament the agreements on the Russian troops pull-out from Estonia and on social guarantees to the Russian military pensioners and their families who permanently live in this Baltic republic, Kallas said that "juridically and politically the documents are not connected with each other" and "their linking will cause a negative reaction in the West."

According to him, "many friends both in the United States and in the European Union do not understand why Estonia, which was offered great help adding pressure on Russia to make it pull out its troops, is dragging on with the ratification now."

Kallas said that the dragging of the process "can reduce the world community's support to Estonia in solving other international problems important for us."

"Besides, this will offer an opportunity for Russia to use it in its propagandist war," said the minister.

"If the military agreements are ratified," said Kallas, "the border problems will have broader prospects for solution."

The military agreements were signed on July 26 of last year in Moscow by Russian President Yeltsin and his Estonian counterpart Lennart Meri.

The Russian parliament ratified them in October. The Estonian parliament decided in summer to reschedule the debate of the documents "because it was to clarify what state laws are to be changed if the documents are ratified."

Estonia Agrees To Open Polls for Russian Duma Elections

LD2111200795 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1639 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] TALLINN, Nov 21 (Interfax) — The Estonian government has heeded Russia's request to open polling stations for elections to the Russian State Duma, Prime Minister Tiit Vahi reported at a press conference on Tuesday.

Polls are to be set up at the Russian Embassy in Tallin and at the Russian General Consulate in Narva.

The Estonian Foreign Ministry has asked the Russian Ambassador Aleksandr Trofimov to submit lists of the Russians living in the republic.

"The ambassador has agreed in principle, but has not submitted the lists so far," Vahi said, doubting the possibility of getting such lists.

The Russian side, Vahi believes, does not want to make such information available to the Estonian government because part of the Russian citizens may object to that, some for fear of discriminatory measures against them, others for different reasons.

According to the Russian General Consulate, of the nearly 300,000 representatives of ethnic minorities permanently living in Estonia, about 80,000 have adopted Russian citizenship.

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Latvia

Secretary Perry Arrives for 2-Day Visit

LD2111210995 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1939 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] RIGA, Nov 21 (Interfax) - U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry arrived in Latvia for a two-day official visit Tuesday afternoon.

In a brief speech before journalists in the airport Perry said that the principal aim of his visit is to study the situation in the Latvian armed forces and to discuss Latvia's participation in the NATO Partnership For Peace program with Latvian political and military leaders.

Perry will hold talks with the Latvian prime minister and acting defense minister Wednesday.

According to the Latvian Defense ministry press office, the sides are not expected to sign any documents.

Welcomed by Premier

LD2111232495 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 2100 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] [Announcer] We continue with Latvia, but not without America. After a visit to Estonia, this afternoon the U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry arrived in Riga for a two- day visit. At Riga airport the distinguished guest was welcomed by Maris Gailis, the prime minister and minister of defense of the Republic of Latvia. At the solemn welcoming ceremony, after the two countries' anthems had been played, Perry and Gailis inspected soldiers of the National Armed Forces headquarters battalion, to whose greeting he responded with: Hello! [in Latvian]. His motorcade set off for the center of Riga. Perry also devoted a few minutes to Latvian journalists.

[Begin Perry recording, in English fading into Estonian translation] I am delighted to be in Latvia. I am here because security and peace in Latvia, we are aware, are important to both Europe and America. During my visit I will discuss issues relating to the strengthening of defense in Latvia, and we will jointly discuss the further development of the Partnership for Peace [PFP] program. At the Defense Ministry very good relations have been formed in the course of this program. During this visit we hope to achieve even closer cooperation. [end recording]

[Announcer] It is planned that tomorrow Perry will meet Juris Eihmanis, the acting commander of the National Armed Forces; Gailis, prime minister and defense minister, and representatives of the military cooperation group. During the visit Perry will visit the training base of the mobile infantry brigade and the Baltic peacekeeping troops at Adazi. But as I said already, Latvia is the last port of call on the U.S. Defense Secretary's Baltic tour, after Lithuania and Estonia.

[Unidentified correspondent] Why was it placed thus? Possibly the U.S. specialists believe that in the present situation it is least worthwhile talking to the Latvians. Latvian Defense Minister Gailis will soon step down from his post, and it is not clear what the country's military future will be. Meanwhile, Juris Dalbins, the commander of the Latvian National Armed Forces, is still acquiring military skills in Perry's homeland, America. Unfortunately Latvia, in terms of both its military potential and its participation in peacekeeping forces and activities with the NATO Partnership for Peace, looks a bit pale against the background of its neighbors. In unofficial talks, Pentagon spokesmen have indicated that they are forming their best relations with Lithuania. They do not have rapid changes of leaders of military policy there, as they do in Latvia and Estonia.

Speaking about the visit that is taking place, one must mention the Baltic desire to create a common air space monitoring system with U.S. assistance. The creation of this is one of the subjects at the talks in all three countries. It is thought that the Americans will provide this help, as for the NATO, too, another monitoring system by the Russian border would come in useful. The Latvians, like the other Baltic states, are especially interested in the Americans' chances of giving material assistance to the defense forces, and here, too, some concession can be expected. Another matter: NATO expansion. Right at the start of the trip, in Estonia, it was indicated that this is a philosophical rather than a practical kind of issue. In the near future the Baltics will have to just dream about being accepted into the alliance, and Perry's statements in Tallinn once more confirm that view. Undoubtedly the U.S. defense secretary's visit in itself is a sign of the NATO support for the Latvians, Lithuanians, and Estonians. Perry is now the second secretary of defense of a great member state of the alliance to drop in to the Baltic lands this year. The first was [Defense Minister] Volker Ruehe, the head of the German military department. Two senior ministers in one year: That is no small thing!

Meets Leaders on NATO Issues

LD2211112395 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1000 GMT 22 Nov 95

[FBIS Translated Text] U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry has come to Latvia, thereby reaffirming the interest of the United States and European countries in Latvian security. Today he is meeting with our state offi-

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cials to discuss the possibility of strengthening Latvia's defense, and also issues relating to Latvia's participation in the NATO Partnership for Peace program. Correspondent Ainars Asaks will tell us about the progress of the visit today:

[Asaks] After this morning's talks with the prime minister and with Defense Minister Maris Gailis, the U.S. defense secretary held a news conference. William Perry made it clear to everyone that it would take several years for Latvia eventually to become a member of NATO — a preparatory period is needed for that; and of course, it also depends on how Russia reacts to that. It is hoped that gradually they will understand that these are not threats, rather these processes are needed for peace in the Baltics and Europe as a whole.

Yes, so then, the Baltic states should be more united. And be the military forces of the Baltic states should be more united still, William Perry stressed. Of course, NATO has convincingly shown that Europe and America [words indistinct] follow the development of political events, including in the Baltics as well. Programs such as Partnership for Peace, within the framework of which several joint land and naval exercises have taken place, have not been created in vain with the support of NATO. In addition, it is now a year since the Baltic peacekeeping battalion began functioning at Adazi. Mr. Perry stressed this as the most important thing which has been done in recent years.

NATO is probably still waiting at the moment to see what shape the development of political events will take. And it is possible that the final word will be said after the elections - after the elections in Russia because, as is known, if the Communists win then one would have to act accordingly and these processes of joining NATO would perhaps be delayed.

When visiting the Baltic states, Defense Secretary William Perry answered several questions - journalists' questions. He stressed that the main thing is that there is a democratic state system in these states, friendly relations with neighboring countries and arms control. And that is the most important thing for us to be able to become a member of NATO.

Lithuania

INTERFAX Summarizes Secretary Perry's Visit

LD2111192195 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1814 GMT 21 Nov 95

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas and U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry discussed the requirements for a state to join NATO in Vilnius Tuesday. Perry had arrived in Vilnius from Tallinn upon the end of his two-day visit to Estonia.

Brazauskas told journalists after the meeting that the requirements include a democratic country management, successful economic reforms, NATO-standard armed forces and active involvement in the alliance's activities.

According to Brazauskas, the meeting that he described as "open and pragmatic" also touched on Lithuania's relations with Russia. He said the United States "supported developing normal relations and searching for ways to avoid possible misunderstandings."

For his part, Perry told a press conference in Vilnius Tuesday that closer relations between Lithuania and the United States would promote stability in Europe.

"We are ready to intensify and widen relations in defense both bilateral and within the program Partnership for Peace," Perry said. Vilnius can make an important contribution to peacekeeping and peace-making worldwide, he added.

Perry said his visit chiefly focused on Lithuania's participation in Partnership for Peace, creation of a Baltic peacekeeping battalion and personnel training for the republic's armed forces. He said the United States "plans to double its aid to Lithuania's defense structure." U.S. legislators are to pass a law allowing supplies of arms and hardware to Lithuania within the next months. After that, the kinds and quantities of arms will be agreed on, he added.

The United States also plan to assist Lithuania in the design and technical maintenance of a single air defense system together with Estonia and Latvia, due to eventually join the European system.

Speaking on the results of his visit to Vilnius, he said Lithuania fully complied with all requirements to membership in NATO. At the same time, he added that the alliance's enlargement will be an extended process.

Commenting on Russia's negative attitude to the proposed NATO enlargement, Perry said Russia "will prove to itself that NATO will represent no danger." On the contrary, Russia should more actively participate in Partnership for Peace and widen consultations on security issues with the United States, he added.

Lithuanian Homeguard Minister Linas Linkevicius told the same press conference that Lithuania did not intend to change its course towards NATO membership. He called Perry's visit "an event of historical importance, a step towards a more intensive cooperation and Lithuania's sooner integration in NATO."

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Perry and Linkevicius had signed a treaty on protection of confidential military information earlier this afternoon.

Prior to this, Perry told Estonian President Lennart Meri that NATO did not have a schedule for admission of new members.

Meri's press office reported to Interfax that Perry and Meri had also discussed the proposed NATO enlargement, Estonia's participation in Partnership for Peace and situation in Russia.

Meri underlined that western states' attitude to Russia's compliance with the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty was of much importance for his country.

Meri told journalists afterwards that he was against the presence of Russia's large military contingents near the border with Estonia.

Meri described as "completely unfounded" Russia's intention to leave the most combat-potent units in the bordering Pskov region. "Russia is not entitled to violate thereby the enacted CFE treaty," he underlined.

Meri said he did not see "any threat to make Russia concentrate its most professionally trained units in the Pskov region."

Meri stated Russia violated the CFE treaty under the formal pretext that the document had been signed in 1990 by the non-existent Soviet Union and that Russia's borders do not match those of the former Soviet Union. However, these pretexts are unfounded, he added.

Perry arrived on a two-day official visit to Latvia Tuesday afternoon.

The press center of Latvia's Defense Ministry told Interfax that Perry will meet with Latvian Prime Minister Maris Gailis, acting Troop Commander Juris Eihmanis and U.S. military cooperation group which has been working in the republic for already several years.

Perry will also visit the Baltic peacekeeping battalion's training center in the village Adazi near Riga.

Perry News Conference

WS2211110295 Tallinn BNS in English 1830 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius, Nov 21, BNS — The U.S. Congress is discussing the possibility of donating surplus military technology and armaments to Lithuania, U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry said at a press conference in Vilnius on Tuesday.

He said the Congress was debating a law which, if passed, would extend military aid to Lithuania.

In his answer to a question by BNS, Perry said he was as yet unable to be more specific about the kind and quantity of the technology and armaments to be donated to Lithuania.

"If a law of this sort is passed, we will clarify Lithuania's requirements and see if they correspond to our possibilities," Perry said.

The defense secretary said that U.S. military aid to Lithuania next year would be twice the size of the aid in 1995. The largest portion of aid will be provided for military training, he said. By way of example, Perry said that there are 10 Lithuanians studying at U.S. military academies this year and that their number will be 30 next year.

Asked if the Baltic countries could expect support from NATO in the event of a military threat even without being members of the alliance, Perry said that NATO guaranteed the security only of its members.

In answer to the question whether he could guarantee that Lithuania would not be left standing before a closed door if other countries were accepted into NATO first, the U.S. defense secretary said that no one could give that guarantee.

"There are, however, five requirements by NATO to candidates for membership: guarantee of democracy, economic reforms, civilian control over the military, the conformity of the armed forces to NATO standards and good relations with neighboring countries," Perry said.

He said he believed that Lithuania was to meet these requirements. However, the decision on NATO membership has to be made by the parliaments of the 16 members of the alliance, as well as by the parliaments of the countries seeking membership, Perry repeated several times at the press conference. NATO will not be expanded in the near future, he said.

Asked if NATO expansion could be sped up if antidemocratic forces won in the parliamentary elections in Russia, Perry said that changes in the alliance didn't depend on Russia. "I believe that we will succeed in convincing Russia that NATO expansion raises no threat to their country," the U.S. defense secretary said.

Lithuanian Defense Minister Linas Linkevicius, speaking at the same press conference, said that one indication of an effort to comply with European standards was the creation of a consolidated air control system for the three Baltic countries and the Vyshegrad countries.

Perry said the United States will continue to support that project. He said that U.S. experts were participating in setting up the framework for a consolidated air control

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system for a number of countries. This framework should be complete as early as next year. "After this, the United States will decide what technology should be transferred to your region," the defense secretary said.

William Perry's 24-hour visit to Lithuania ended Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. From Vilnius, he flew to Riga, after which he will visit Denmark and Macedonia.

Brazauskas, Perry on Talks

WS2111135695 Tallinn BNS in English 1000 GMT 21 Nov 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius, Nov 21, BNS — Lithuanian security is of vital importance to Europe and also to the United States, U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry said in Vilnius.

After talks with Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas, which lasted almost an hour on Monday evening, the high-ranking guest said that one way of increasing security throughout the world was defense cooperation between countries.

Perry told journalists he had discussed with the Lithuanian head of state how the United States could help Lithuania become an even more active member of the Partnership for Peace program.

It is important for Lithuania to concentrate on carrying out this program and on transition to NATO standards, the U.S. defense secretary said.

Speaking with journalists, Brazauskas characterized his conversation with Perry open and pragmatic. "We did not only talk abstractly about the prospects for NATO expansion but also discussed the conditions which must be met by any country seeking NATO membership," the Lithuanian president said.

Among these conditions, Brazauskas mentioned democracy, economic reforms, approaching NATO standards and as active as possible participation in NATO programs and military operations.

Brazauskas said that he had emphasized Lithuania's good relations with its neighbors.

Perry also said it was essential to seek ways of avoiding misunderstandings with Russia. He said that he had met four times during the past five weeks with Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev.

The delegation headed by the U.S. defense secretary arrived in Lithuania Monday afternoon. Their stay lasts exactly 24 hours.

Russia Denied Permission To Open Kaunas Consulate

MM2011155695 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Nov 95 p 3

[Report by Nikolay Lashkevich: "Lithuanian 'No' to Russian Consulate in Kaunas"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Vilnius — Russian diplomats have encountered an unexpected problem in Vilnius. To their surprise, the Lithuanian authorities have opposed the opening of a consulate in Lithuania's second biggest city, Kaunas.

Kaunas City Hall was the first to say a firm "no." The confusing account of the reasons behind the reluctance to open a consulate amounted to an explanation that such an establishment was unnecessary in a city of 500,000 people — the former Lithuanian capital. Then there came a flustered reply from the Seimas Foreign Affairs Committee, which was supposed to approve an earlier Russian memorandum requesting the opening of a consulate in Kaunas on an equal basis. As is known, Lithuania has already opened its own consular services in St. Petersburg and Kaliningrad, whereas Russia has done so only in Klajpeda so far. According to Russian Ambassador to Lithuania Nikolay Obertyshev, the principle of equality must operate without resort to various arguments like "Lithuania is much smaller than Russia." But that was precisely the viewpoint adopted by the Lithuanian legislators in the Foreign Affairs Committee — those opposing the opening of a consulate in Kaunas. The second argument is: Why should Russia want this mission in a city that is only 100 km from Vilnius, where it has an embassy?

The Lithuanian Foreign Ministry is trying to make the parliamentarians see sense (saying that Russia is entitled to decide for itself how many diplomatic missions it opens in accordance with bilateral accords), but the Seimas members are insistent. Last Wednesday [15 November], the Foreign Affairs Committee told IZVESTIYA, the legislators again failed to make a decision; to be precise, they demanded further information from Kaunas City Hall.

It is not inconceivable that the problem of the Kaunas consulate will be used to pressurize Russian diplomats and get Russia to hurry up and return former Lithuanian property in France and Italy, which the USSR confiscated in 1940.

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Brazauskas on Ignalina Power Station, NATO, EU

BR2111153395 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 21 Nov 95 p A11

[Report on interview with Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas by Mert Kubu in Vilnius; no date given: "Lithuania Cannot Afford To Close Ignalina"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Vilnius — It would cost over 30 billion Swedish kronor to close the controversial nuclear power station in Ignalina and replace it with something else. This is something that Lithuania cannot afford in the short term, Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas told DAGENS NYHETER.

At the head of what in Vilnius is being called "a large delegation" the Lithuanian president arrives today, Tuesday, on a state visit to Sweden.

In addition to his advisers the 63-year-old Brazauskas will have with him company chiefs and bank directors. The aim is to entice Swedish companies to invest in Lithuania, and Swedish banks to grant credits. Hitherto neighboring Sweden has only made modest investments in Lithuania.

Economic issues will be at the center of attention in the talks during the state visit. But President Brazauskas also wants to discuss environmental issues, such as making the Baltic a clean sea. He is conscious that the Swedish side is interested both in the safety of Ignalina (with reactors of the Chernobyl type) and in stopping the boats smuggling refugees to Sweden.

[Kubu] There are experts in Sweden who think that for safety reasons it would be wiser to close Ignalina before the Swedish nuclear power stations are closed.

[Braz skas] Ignalina is the biggest producer of energy in Lithuania today. It is difficult simply to close it. We are very grateful to the Swedish Government and ABB [Asea Brown Boveri] which have helped us to improve safety at Ignalina.

It would cost us over 30 billion kronor to close and replace Ignalina. This is something that our economy does not permit in the short term.

[Kubu] Can Sweden send back the refugees who are smuggled across to Sweden in boats?

[Brazauskas] I do not want to use the word "refugees," but the term "illegal immigrants" instead. A refugee has a different status. As yet we have no agreements with Sweden about taking back illegal immigrants. As far as refugees are concerned we have adopted a law which corresponds to the European standard.

We send back the illegal immigrants who come to Lithuania from Russia and Belarus. We must now sit down together and think out a system which would mean that they would not come to Lithuania or Sweden.

[Kubu] Of the Baltic states Lithuania has been the most eager about becoming a full member of NATO. Does this not disturb relations with Russia? [Kubu ends]

No, the president does not think so. In an open letter to NATO he has voiced the wish that Lithuania should become an alliance member.

"Since this wish of ours is in line with the security system which has been settled for Lithuania I do not think that this will have any effect on our relations with Russia."

There is no discord with Russia. There are no problems today with the Kaliningrad region. The transit transports are functioning according to established routines.

But you do have an oil conflict with neighboring Latvia? The Lithuanian ambassador in Riga was even called home for consultations. Because the Latvian Government signed an agreement with a Swedish-American consortium without asking Lithuania's permission.

"First, it is not a question of oil, but of the limit where oil could be found. If there is any oil at all, there on the sea bed. At a depth of 2 to 3.5 kilometers."

President Brazauskas laughed in amusement. No, there will not be a serious conflict with Latvia over the oil. The issue will be settled through negotiations.

The three Baltic states want to become members of the EU, but among themselves they have drawn up bureaucratic customs restrictions. As a motorist you run the risk of being kept waiting for hours if you are unlucky. Surely things cannot be like this as members of the EU?

No, President Brazauskas agrees. Common customs rules for the Baltic region are being prepared. The issue will probably be resolved in good time before admission.

"But I too am dissatisfied with certain phenomena on the Lithuanian-Latvian border," he said.

As soon as Latvia has a new government the president intends to see to it that the Lithuanian Government tackles the issue.

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